

THE North-China Herald

AND

SUPREME COURT & CONSULAR GAZETTE.

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Shanghai mail advices of 10th November were received in London on the 15th December.

The North-China Herald.

IMPARTIAL NOT NEUTRAL.

SHANGHAI, FRIDAY, DEC. 22, 1893.

THE five Southern ports whose returns for the third quarter of this year remain to be noticed, gave uniformly a smaller revenue than in 1892, their total deficiency amounting to over Tls. 185,000. At Amoy the decline was under every head except opium duty and likin, and tonnage dues, and in these the advance was only trifling. The tonnage entered and cleared amounted to 238,069 and 230,050 tons, against 235,720 and 230,757 tons respectively in 1892. Of opium 1,276 piculs were imported against 1,412 piculs last year. There was a decline in cotton goods imported with the exception of T-Cloths, while the comparative figures for cotton yarn were:—

	1893.	1892.
Indian, piculs	13,037	14,897

Woollens were up to last year, but there was a decline in metals. In foreign sundries there was a marked falling off in kerosene oil, the comparative figures being:—

	1893.	1892.
American, cases	29,200	72,307
Russian	16,125	26,501

Native sundries showed an almost general decline, which was very marked in bean cake, beans, and peas. Exports were fairly well maintained, with only a slight decline in sugar and tea. Of transit passes, 349 were issued and 103 surrendered against 361 and 104 respectively last year. The treasure table shows an import of silver to the value of Tls. 631,062, and an export of gold to the value of Tls. 10,266 and of silver to the value of Tls. 460,404.

In Swatow the decline was under every heading except tonnage dues, which showed an advance of some Tls. 2,600. The tonnage entered and cleared amounted to 211,720 and 213,828 tons against 222,746 and 224,332 tons respectively in 1892. The import of opium amounted to 1,521 piculs against 1,850 piculs last year. There was a partial decline in cotton goods, with a marked improvement in white shirtings, the comparative figures for cotton yarn being:

	1893.	1892.
English, piculs	5,583	5,739
Indian	23,856	26,034

Woollens showed a slight decline; there was an improvement in iron, ex-

cept in nail-roads, and a decline in lead. In foreign sundries there was a considerable falling-off in kerosene oil, the comparative figures being:—

	1893.	1892.
American, cases	23,440	42,521
Russian	31,770	43,800

In native sundries, wheat excepted, there was a decline, which was very marked in bean cake and beans. Exports were fairly well maintained, with the exception of sugar and tea, which showed a very considerable decline. Transit passes do not run in either Swatow or Canton. The treasure table shows an import of silver to the value of Tls. 101,007, and an export of the same metal to the value of Tls. 611,884.

In Canton there was an improvement under import duty and coast trade duty, and a decline under all the other heads of revenue. The amount of tonnage entered and cleared was 401,717 and 401,181 tons, against 389,194 and 391,730 tons respectively in 1892. Of opium, 2,191 piculs were imported against 2,597 piculs last year. In cotton goods, there was a considerable improvement in the import of shirtings, while the comparative figures for cotton yarn were:—

	1893.	1892.
English, piculs	647	375
Indian	31,936	36,503

There was an improved import of woollens and a trifling decline in metals. In sundries we note a marked decline in beans and peas, Indian and Japanese raw cotton, and rice and paddy; with an advance in Chinese raw cotton and leaf and prepared tobacco. Tongking coal appears for the first time as an import, to the extent of 11,270 tons. The comparative figures for kerosene oil were:—

	1893.	1892.
American, cases	15,514	62,358
Russian	7,375	10,180

The export table shows an improvement in hair, both pig and human, matting, wild silk, silk refuse, and sugar, with a decline in a large number of articles including specially canes, fans of all kinds, white silk, tea, and tobacco. The treasure table shows an import of silver to the value of Tls. 927,749, and an export of the same metal to the value of Tls. 226,783.

The decline at Kiungchow, which was only trifling, was under both import and export duty. The tonnage entered and cleared amounted to 52,334 tons against 45,417 tons each in 1892. Of opium

8 piculs were imported against 6 last year, the island of Hainan being now mainly supplied with Indian drug by junks from Singapore to unopened ports. The import of cotton goods was only slightly below the average, the comparative figures for cotton yarn being:—

	1893.	1892.
Indian, piculs	6,458	8,200

Woollens were well maintained, but there was a slight decline in nail-rod iron. There was a good import of sundries, with a decline in kerosene oil, the comparative figures being:—

	1893.	1892.
American, cases	7,260	16,001
Russian, „	1,580	1,300

In exports, eggs, pigs, and leaf tobacco showed an advance, and there was a considerable falling-off in brown sugar. Of transit passes, 33 were surrendered against 13 in 1892, 5 in 1891, and 12 in 1890. They are used to bring down galangal, and brown and white sugar. The treasure table shows an import of silver to the value of T'ls. 16,900, and an export of the same metal to the value of T'ls. 45,139. Five foreigners arrived at, and the same number left Kiungchow in the three months.

At Pakhoi the decline was under every head of revenue except transit dues. The total tonnage entered and cleared was 19,405 and 20,176 tons against 10,240 and 9,820 tons respectively last year. Of opium 113 piculs were imported against the same quantity in 1892. There was a considerable decline in cotton goods, while the comparative figures for cotton yarn were:—

	1893.	1892.
Indian, piculs	23,748	33,453

Woollens were fairly well maintained and there was a slight decline in metals. There was a good average import of sundries, rice showing an advance to Pls. 106,056, from Pls. 639 in 1892, and nil in 1891. The comparative figures for kerosene oil were:—

	1893.	1892.
American, cases	19,860	18,560
Russian, „	3,100	9,820

In exports, there was a decline in the principal staples of the port, with the almost solitary exception of cowhides, which showed an advance to Pls. 3,366 from Pls. 2,744 in 1892. Yunnan tin seems to go now entirely by the Tongking route. Of transit passes, 79 were issued against 51 in 1892, 46 in 1891, and 26 in 1890. The treasure table shows an import of silver to the value of T'ls. 2,175 and an export of the same metal to the value of T'ls. 179,991.

Summary of News.

The French mail of the 11th November arrived here on the 18th instant, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Natal*.

The *Yokohama Maru* arrived here on Tuesday, bringing the American mail ex China with dates to 21st November.

The English mail of the 17th November arrived here this afternoon, by the P. & O. Co.'s str. *Ganges*.

A mail leaves to-morrow for Europe, by the M.M. Co.'s str. *Salacie*.

LATEST INTELLIGENCE.

SUPPLIED THROUGH REUTER'S AGENCY
EXCLUSIVELY TO THE "NORTH-CHINA
DAILY NEWS."

(Delayed through interruption of the lines.)

ANARCHIST OUTRAGE IN PARIS.

London, 11th December.

During a sitting of the French Chamber of Deputies on Saturday a bomb filled with slugs was thrown from the public gallery and exploded in the air, scattering slugs in every part of the Chamber. Eighty persons were injured, including about fifteen Deputies, but fortunately nobody was killed. The doors were immediately closed and everyone in the gallery searched. The corridors were for the time being converted into a hospital. The Chamber continued its sitting at the instance of President Dupuy, who displayed admirable coolness amidst the panic. The perpetrator of the outrage was arrested and confessed his guilt. He proves to be a notorious Anarchist and his intention was to aim at the President of the Chamber.

RUSSIA AND CHINA.

The Chinese Minister has returned to St. Petersburg to resume negotiations with the Russian Government for a settlement of the Pamirs question.

THE ITALIAN CABINET CRISIS.

The new Italian Cabinet is nearly complete, Signor Crispi taking office as Premier and Minister of the Interior.

THE HEALTH OF THE G.O.M.

Mr. Gladstone is better and has gone to Brighton for a rest.

THE ANARCHIST OUTRAGE IN PARIS.

London, 12th December.

When the House of Commons assembled on Monday, Sir Wm. Harcourt, in the absence of the Premier, expressed the sympathy of the British Government and of the House of Commons with the French Chamber of Deputies as to the diabolical outrage which had been perpetrated, and their horror of the crime. Mr. Balfour, leader of the Opposition, warmly endorsed the utterances of the Chancellor of the Exchequer.

In the Chamber of Deputies on Monday M. Casimir-Périer, the Premier, moved to introduce Bills to punish the Press for inciting to or praising outrages; for increasing the strength of the Police; and for punishing the possessors of explosives.

The Press Bill was immediately read a first time by the Chamber notwithstanding the opposition of the Socialist members.

ANARCHISM IN ITALY.

London, 14th December.

Serious Socialist disturbances have occurred in Italy, and the troops who were called out were compelled to fire on the rioters, killing and wounding seventy-two.

THE ALLEGED INSUFFICIENCY OF THE NAVY.

At a crowded and representative meeting held in the City under the presidency of Sir A. Rollit, resolutions

were adopted urging that immediate steps should be taken to increase the Navy, so as to guarantee the security of the Empire and its commerce.

In the House of Commons Lord George, Hamilton, ex-First Lord of the Admiralty, gave notice of a resolution declaring that the interests of the country demand large additions to the Navy, and further demanding that a statement of the intentions of the government in this direction should be made before Christmas.

ANARCHISM TO BE PUT DOWN.

15th December.

All the European Chambers are taking measures against bomb throwing.

INDISPOSITION OF THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

The Princess of Wales is suffering from influenza.

ANXIOUS NEWS FROM MATABELELAND.

A despatch from Bulawayo, dated the 8th of December, states that a detachment of Major Forbes' patrol crossed the Shangani river and overtook Lobengula when the latter was in ambush. The detachment returned towards their camp fighting the Matabele, but in the meanwhile the river had risen, preventing Major Forbes from sending reinforcements. Anxiety is felt for the small force thus cut off.

[The Shangani river is an affluent of the Guay River, which runs into the Zambesi. The course of the Shangani is generally east and west, in lat. 18° 30' S., and about 100 miles to the north of Bulawayo.—Ed.]

ANOTHER CURRENCY NOSTRUM.

During a debate in the Commons on the India Loan Bill, to extend the borrowing powers of the Secretary of State for India, Sir J. Lubbock and Mr. Samuel Montagu strongly urged that a duty should be imposed on silver imported into India.

PARLIAMENTARY BUSINESS ARRANGEMENTS.

Mr. Gladstone announced that the House of Commons would adjourn on the 22nd inst. for the Christmas holidays, and reassemble on the 27th idem. Sir J. Dorington, Conservative Member for Tewkesbury, thereupon moved to adjourn the House as a protest against the prolonged session and the general conduct of business. The Premier in reply declared that the Government were determined to proceed with the Parish Councils Bill and would adhere to their programme. A heated debate ensued, but eventually Sir J. Dorington's motion was rejected by a majority of fifty.

THE SITUATION URGENT IN INDIA.

Lord Kimberley stated in the House of Lords that it would be necessary to pass the India Loan Bill before Christmas.

REASSURING NEWS FROM MATABELELAND.

16th December.

The latest advices from Bulawayo state that Captain Wilson, commanding

the detachment which crossed the Shangani river, is holding his own against a large force of Matabele.

THE WANT OF CONFIDENCE DEBATE.

The debate on Lord George Hamilton's motion for large additions to the navy will commence on Tuesday next. Mr. Gladstone will move an amendment that the House relies on Ministers to submit definite proposals in due time.

Mr. Sydney Buxton, Parliamentary Secretary to the Colonial Office, has informed the House of Commons that the idea of the coinage of a British dollar is not favoured by the Straits Settlements or Hongkong. Lord Herschell's committee, he added, are considering Hongkong's proposal to legalise the *yen*.

THE PROGRESS OF THE NEWCASTLE PROGRAMME.

The Employers' Liability Bill has passed through all its stages in the House of Lords.

THE HEALTH OF THE PRINCESS OF WALES.

London, 18th December.

A bulletin issued yesterday announces that the Princess of Wales is improving in health.

PUNISHMENT OF SUSPECTED SPIES.

Two French officers who were arrested in August last at Kiel on suspicion of being spies have been sentenced at Leipsic to six and four years' imprisonment respectively in a fortress.

A DYNAMITER CAUGHT.

The author of the dynamite outrage at the Liceo Theatre, Barcelona, in November last, has been arrested.

SETTLEMENT OF THE AIGUES-MORTES RIOTS.

The French Government has agreed to pay Italy seventeen thousand pounds sterling as compensation to the victims of the Aigues-Mortes riots, whilst Italy indemnifies the relatives of the French who were killed during the consequent riots at Rome, Genoa, and Naples.

THE PAMIRS QUESTION.

London, 19th December.

The negotiations now being carried on at St. Petersburg for a settlement of the Pamirs question are proceeding very slowly. China desires to retain the territory comprising the Murghab Valley, and consents to rectify the frontier, but objects to the Russians using the territory which is the eventual route to India.

PROGRESS OF THE INDIA LOAN BILL.

The India Loan Bill, which increases the borrowing powers of the Secretary of State for India, has been read a third time and passed by the House of Commons.

THE STATE OF BUSINESS IN PARLIAMENT.

The prolonged Parliamentary Session is exhausting the members of the House

of Commons and the officers of the House.

IS MR. GLADSTONE RIDING FOR A FALL?

The *Times* in commenting on the general deadlock in parliamentary business discusses the rumour that the Government is riding for a fall, but doubts the probability of a dissolution, the Government being fully aware that the result would be adverse to them.

THE EMBASSY AT CONSTANTINOPLE.

London, 20th December.

Sir Philip H. W. Currie, G.C.B., Permanent Under-Secretary to the Foreign Office, has been appointed British Ambassador at Constantinople in succession to Sir Francis Clare Ford.

PROGRESS OF THE INDIA LOAN BILL.

The India Loan Bill has been passed by the House of Lords. During the debate on the Bill Lord Salisbury said its acceptance was the only course open to the House, but he regretted the absence of any fresh attempt to negotiate a bimetallic agreement, and said that it would be an act of justice if Great Britain helped to bear a portion of India's loss through the fall in silver.

THE BUFFER STATE.

The French Commissioners appointed to delimitate the Siamese Buffer State are Messrs. Pavie, Portales, and Lukan, and amongst the British Commissioners is Mr. J. G. Scott, Superintendent of the Northern Shan States, and acting British Minister to Siam.

THE GOVERNMENT SUSTAINED AS TO THE NAVY.

London, 21st December.

The House of Commons has rejected Lord George Hamilton's motion regarding the Navy, and unanimously adopted Mr. Gladstone's amendment to rely on Ministers submitting definite proposals in due time.

AND AS TO THE EMPLOYERS' LIABILITY BILL.

The "contracting-out" amendment made by the House of Lords to the Employers' Liability Bill has been rejected by the Commons by a majority of sixty-two votes.

[This question is regarded as a vital one by those responsible for the Bill. The amendment proposed to permit workmen, under certain conditions, contracting themselves out of the Act, thus making the employers' liability very largely permissive.—Ed.]

THE CRISIS IN ITALY.

Signor Crispi, the Italian Premier, has made an appeal for concord between Parliament and the Government until Italy's fortunes are restored. He declares that the present crisis is the gravest that has yet occurred, and the country must make some sacrifices.

THE FRENCH CABINET.

Paris, 1st December.

Admiral Lefebvre takes the portfolio of the Marine in place of Admiral Laffon, M. Marly that of Commerce, M. Jonnart Public

Works, and M. Viger Agriculture. M. Delcassé leaves the Colonial Office and is replaced by M. Lebon.

2nd December.

The Cabinet will to-morrow make its declaration. It will be firm and clear.

3rd December.

The Ministerial declaration rejects the Socialist doctrine, the Revision of the Constitution, and the Separation of Church and State, announces various reforms, and states that the Ministry will defend the rights and interests of France abroad.

ARREST OF ANARCHISTS.

2nd December.

There has been an arrest of anarchists in Belgium.

FRENCH POLITICS.

Paris, 5th December.

The Chamber has rejected the amnesty by 258 votes to 228.

M. Raynal spoke against the project.

6th December.

M. Dupuy has been elected President of the Chamber, receiving 257 votes as against 213 recorded for M. Brisson.

Parliament will adjourn next week.

7th December.

The Colonial party has expressed the opinion that the organisation of the new Mekong territory should be proceeded with rapidly. —*Tongking Papers*.

READINGS FOR THE WEEK.

(Thermometers in the open air in a shaded situation in the English Settlement.)

1893.

	Fahr.	Thermometer.	Min.	Max.	Rainfall
					in inches.
Dec. 15		34°.5	.....	51°.5	.....
" 16		24°.5	.....	44°.5	.....
" 17		27°.0	.....	47°.0	.....
" 18		36°.3	.....	54°.0	.....
" 19		43°.8	.....	63°.8	.....
" 20		36°.0	.....	52°.0	.....
" 21		37°.0	.....	49°.5	.....

1892.

	Fahr.	Thermometer.	Min.	Max.	Rainfall
					in inches.
Dec. 15		26°.0	.....	45°.0	.....
" 16		37°.0	.....	44°.0	.....
" 17		28°.5	.....	39°.0	.....
" 18		24°.5	.....	43°.0	.....
" 19		26°.0	.....	41°.0	.....
" 20		26°.5	.....	44°.0	.....
" 21		32°.0	.....	53°.5	.....

Sicawei weather report, Friday, 15th December, 10 a.m.: Yesterday the barometer was slightly falling on the S. coast, where the monsoon continued blowing in moderate breezes; it fell rapidly at Shanghai, with light S. winds, and began to rise at Tientsin, where strong N. winds began to blow in the afternoon. Since yesterday 9 p.m. the barometer has risen quickly at Shanghai and is now 0.24 in. above its normal height (Force maxim. of the wind during the night, 20 miles per hour). Fine but cold weather at Shanghai. Strong breezes may be expected on the coast, especially on the S. coast, blowing from N. and N.W. on the N. coast and N.E. on the S. coast.—Saturday, 16th December, 10 a.m.: Yesterday, high barometric pressure over N. China and low pressure over Japan. Bar 30.55 at Shanghai and 29.69 at Tokio. On the coast of China, the barometer was rising and strong winds from N.E. set in in the Formosa Channel in the afternoon. This morning the barometer began to fall at Shanghai. Fine weather at Shanghai. Light breezes from W. or N.W. may be expected on the N. coast and a monsoon still strong but moderating on the S. coast.—Sunday, 17th December, 10 a.m.: The barometer fell yesterday over all the coast of China, while it rose again over Japan and at Vladivostok. Light W. breezes prevailed over the N. coast of China, and the N.E. monsoon continued over the S. coast. This morning, the barometer, still a little above the normal height, continues

thereby re-established.

The lowest temperature at Sicawei this season was experienced on Friday when the thermometer was down to 20°9.

The first four prizes in the Manila lottery this month have fallen to numbers 32,951; 22,798; 3,058; and 32,233. It is rumored that the third prize has come to Shanghai.

At the Japanese Consulate-General on Tuesday, three Japanese were charged with assaulting and tying up the complainant with a rope. One was fined \$3 and the others \$1 each.

H.E. Shêng Taotai is expected to leave this for Soochow in a few days on a visit to his father H.E. Shêng Hsin-jên, and will probably remain there ten days when he will return to Shanghai again.

A Wuchang native letter just received states that H.E. T'an Chi-hsün, Governor of Hupeh, handed over the seals and insignia of his office to H.E. Chang Chih-tung on the 13th instant, preparatory to starting on his mission to Szechuan.

According to a private letter from Corea it seems that the Heir-apparent of that Kingdom was married on the 6th instant to the daughter of one of the Court Ministers by the name of Chin or Kin Ssi-chün. The bride is thirteen years of age.

According to a native telegram received here from the province of Kansu, snow commenced to fall in the city of Suchow (near the Great Wall) on the 14th instant, the ground being covered an inch thick, and at the date of telegram (16th) the snow had not yet ceased falling.

A Nanking native correspondent writes that on the 10th instant, H.E. Shên Ping-ch'ên, Governor of Anhui, ordered the decapitation of the last of the famous *Kolao Hui* chiefs. This man was Liu Kao-shêng, otherwise known as the last of the "Five Tigers" of the Yangtze ports who succeeded the "Five Dragons" decapitated in 1891-2.

There is one noteworthy incident connected with the transfer of Mr. Luh Tung-hua, formerly police magistrate of the native city here, to his new post of district magistrate of Paoshan, near Woosung. Instead of making the journey in chairs, with the accompanying umbrellas, etc., he and his staff drove to their destination in carriages, which is regarded by the natives as a very *fin de siècle* proceeding.

On the 11th instant a Chinese post-boat, having a crew of four men and a cargo of opium and valuable packages, including letters, on its way from Changchow to Soochow was attacked by pirates and about \$3,000 worth of property carried off. A week before this another post-boat belonging to three native agencies of this port proceeding from Hangchow to Kashing was also stopped by pirates and its contents stolen.

The Governor of Formosa has decided to construct a road between Kelung and Huwei (Tamsui) which will be about twenty miles long. It will be a great boon to the inhabitants of the district, as hitherto persons desiring to go from one to the other have been compelled to make the journey in boat or launch, the land route being too mountainous. The work will also be of strategic value and will be carried out by soldiers.

A native telegram from Wuchang states that H.E. T'an Chi-hsün, Governor of Hupeh, will start next month for Szechuan on a secret mission of importance, by command of the Throne. It is reported that he goes to investigate the missionary outrages in that province. H.E. Yü Kêng, the expectant Taotai who conducted the Wuseh affair and the Sungpu negotiations, will accompany the Governor, being one of a suite of eight officials.

Foochow advises state that the residence of H.E. the new Provincial Commander-in-Chief, General Yang, was burnt to the ground on the night of the 7th instant. No lives are reported to have been lost, but

furniture, clothes and valuables amounting to over Tls. 10,000 were totally destroyed. The day after the fire there was found a lump of melted silver in the *débris*, weighing possibly about 400 ounces. This was the only thing of value saved from the ruins.

According to a Peking letter His Majesty granted audience to H.E. Mr. Loumyer the Belgian Minister, in the Chêngkuang Throne Hall on the morning of the 8th inst. The same formalities were observed as in the audience given to the British and other Ministers on former occasions, Prince Ch'ing (formerly I K'uang Beiléh), kneeling as usual at a spot on the left hand-side below the Throne, performing the ceremony of introduction by virtue of his office as President of the Tsungli Yamên.

We understand that no more obstacles are to be put in the way of Chinese desiring to establish cotton mills at the Treaty Ports, on condition that they pay a royalty of one tael per bale of yarn produced to the fund for the re-establishment of the Shanghai Cotton Cloth Mill, until that fund amounts to two million taels. This royalty to be subject to reduction if the yarn falls below a certain point. We may now expect to see Shanghai rapidly become a centre of cotton manufacture, rivalling Bombay.

According to the petition of Shêng Taotai to H.E. Li Hung-chang, the one tael a bale previously mentioned is to be collected on all the yarn produced at the forthcoming new cotton mill at Yangtzepoo, until the loss of government funds invested in the mill lately burnt, amounting to Tls. 256,390, has been made good; while the unofficial losers by the fire, whose investments amounted to Tls. 654,900, are to have the value of the ruins and *débris*, and what salvage there was, divided *pro rata* among them.

An important telegram has been received by the mandarins of this port from Foochow, which appears to confirm the news of insurrection in the Fukien border prefecture of Tingchow, near Kiangsi province. A city, it is now reported, has been captured by the insurgents, who are believed to be the remnants of the band of *Kolao Hui* who were driven from the hill district of Pinghsianghsien, Kiangsi, last summer, and whose principal chief was captured on the occasion. Troops are being rapidly sent to the front by the high provincial authorities of Fukien.

Yesterday, known to us as the shortest day of the year, was celebrated by the Chinese as the Winter Solstice which is a day universally observed for sacrificial worship to the ancestral *manes*. This day is also observed by the Manchu rulers of the country as the first day of their new year, — a custom introduced at the time of the conquest in the 17th century. Amongst rulers of native fashions this is also the time to commence the wearing of fox fur and sable robes which continues to the beginning of the Spring Solstice, forty-five days or so later on. In consequence of the holiday nature of the day, there was no sitting of the Mixed Court yesterday.

It is stated that when H.E. Kung Chao-yuan, lately Provincial Treasurer of Szechuan, and now Minister-designate to England, etc., went up to Peking last October, he secretly denounced to the Throne certain irregularities of conduct on the part of the Viceroy of Szechuan, H.E. Liu Ping-chang; and that the Governor of Hupeh, H.E. Tan Chi-hsün, has been sent on a special mission by the Emperor to Szechuan to investigate the charges made by H.E. Kung, the story that he was to deal with the missionary question being set about in order that his real mission might remain a secret. H.E. Tan is expected to leave Wuchang this week for his destination.

Later telegrams from Foochow give fuller particulars of the insurrection at Tingchow, Fukien. It seems that a num-

ber of local bandits reinforced by the remnants of the *Kolao Hui*, taking advantage of the withdrawal of the troops garrisoning the prefecture of Tingchow, and of the city of Ch'angtinghsieh especially, combined together and surprised part of the city; the other part being held by the district magistrate and his trained bands as well as such of the inhabitants as remained loyal to the government officials. The cause of the withdrawal of the troops in question was owing to the triennial tour of inspection of the Governor-General of Min-Ché. Five regiments of Hunan "braves" have already started for the scene of operations.

News has been received from Chinkiang to the effect that anonymous and inflammatory placards have recently been posted in the town and vicinity of Yilin 義林, within the jurisdiction of the Chinkiang Taotai. The productions bear a literary style, and show that China has everything she needs and that missionaries are teaching no new doctrines to the people. They (the missionaries) are therefore not wanted, and an appeal is made calling upon patriots to collect on some day to be agreed upon, to kill and destroy. "Weapons and Fire," continue the placards, "are the best for the purposes in view." The missionaries in this instance are styled "Englishmen;" but so far as we are aware, the missionaries at Yilin are Scandinavians, not Englishmen.

A deputy of the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung who arrived here on Friday last from Wuchang and was interviewed by a member of our staff, denies that there was any straining of relations between Mr. Consul-General Bock and the Viceroy on the question of heads and blood-money. He stated that the Chinese authorities were quite willing to give a life for a life, and as for the question of money still less difficulty was experienced, as the Viceroy and his deputies the Hankow Taotai and Yü Taotai were perfectly amenable, and readily acquiesced in the indemnity demanded — \$50,000 or so. This sum they considered as a sort of relief money to the families of the murdered missionaries; but they denied that any claim could be made for damage done to buildings at Sungpu during the riots, on the ground that they belonged to Chinese subjects, outside of foreign interference. Moreover that if these Chinese subjects want their authorities to give an indemnity they could petition for it themselves, and the mandarins would see them righted. Furthermore, although, after some argument, Mr. Bock got the authorities to give in to his demand to allow missionaries to go again to Sungpu, this deputy himself has been there recently and says he would shudder at the idea of any foreigners going there just now, as the people are in a perfect state of ferment and excitement at the way things have been going on at Huangchow, where many innocent persons have suffered on suspicion, all of which the people lay at the door of the missionaries, since it is through them that so many people have suffered. Hence he says that if any one wishes to be martyred he has only to go there at the present day. The people of Sungpu were friendly enough before the riots, but nowadays, to say the least, there is a good deal of hatred existing in the place against missionaries. To any foreigner going there now, it would only be a repetition of the awful work of last summer. The above, by the way, is only the private opinion of our informant on the subject, formed by personal knowledge of the state of affairs in Hupeh. According to Chinese law the two persons who have to suffer death for the murder of the two Swedish missionaries, will be strangled, as the latter lost their lives during a mob fight. The only hitch during the whole transaction was the point where it was demanded that foreigners should be allowed to go again to Sungpu, which, from the intimate knowledge of the Chinese

authorities of the consensus of opinion in that place, the officials tried to persuade Mr. Buck should be waived for a while until the people of Sungpu got quieted down again.

The well-known racing ponies belonging to Mr. Trebau's stable which were offered for sale by auction at the Horse Bazaar yesterday were not sold. The bidding for *Bovril* reached Tls. 900, when he was bought in at Tls. 1,000.

We have to thank Père Louis Gaillard, S.J., the author, for a copy of his newly published monograph, *Croix et Swastika en Chine*, admirably printed at the Orphanage at Tonséwé, and illustrated with more than 200 woodcuts. It is a most complete dissertation on these well-known symbols, which have engaged the attention of students of religion, archaeology, art, and history all over the world.

We noticed last year the convenient pocket diaries (they measure about 6 by 4½ inches) issued by the Presbyterian Mission Press here, under the titles of *The Missionaries' Anglo-Chinese Diary* and *The Medical Missionaries' Anglo-Chinese Diary*, and we have now to acknowledge receipt of the issues of these most useful volumes for 1894, and have first to admire the improved form in which they are got up. They extend to 312 and 316 pages respectively, and both contain a diary with English and Chinese dates, two days on a page, with plenty of room for cash accounts and memoranda, all ruled, and postal information. In addition to this a large number of blank tables are provided for recording the daily duties performed by the missionary and the medical missionary respectively; and armed with one of these complete and inexpensive volumes, which cost only 60 cents each, the most unmethodical evangelist could not help becoming a pattern of neatness and order, as far as regards his professional life at any rate.

We have received copies of the December issue of the *Chinese Illustrated News* and of the January issue of the *Child's Paper*, both from the Chinese Religious Tract Society, printed at the Presbyterian Mission Press here. Both are illustrated, the former containing a not very pleasing portrait of the Queen, while the names of some of the contributors, Mrs. W. S. Emsen, Mrs. J. L. Stuart, Miss Ella J. Newton, Mr. A. J. H. Moule, etc., etc., are a sufficient guarantee of the excellence of the letterpress they contain.

From Messrs. Frazar & Co., agents here of the Queen (now merged in the Royal) Insurance Company, we have received a useful blotting book with almanac, a counterpart of that issued by the Royal.

From the China and Japan Trading Co., Ltd., agents, we have received additional copies of the very handy calendar for 1894 issued by the London and Lancashire Fire Insurance Company.

Messrs. T. Weeks & Co. have sent us a useful hanging calendar for 1894 with a month on each sheet, in which attention is drawn to the varied resources of their establishment.

Messrs. A. S. Watson & Co., Ltd., have sent us a calendar for 1894 with an extremely pretty coloured illustration of a girl sitting in a window-seat at a ball, and considering how she shall erase an undesirable name from her programme, and substitute that of a more favoured partner.

We have received from Messrs. Rosenzweig & Co. four calendars for 1894, adorned with chromo-lithographs, graceful and sporting.

Again we have to commend the excellence, as well as the exceeding cheapness, of the *Imperial English and Chinese Diary and Almanac*, published by Messrs. Kelly & Walsh, Ltd., though, as there is probably hardly a house in China without one or two copies of it every year, our commendation may seem superfluous. It is ruled horizontally and for accounts, gives plenty of

room for the owner to write his full autobiography, has special pages for memoranda of things lent, which might be headed with the motto which Dante found over the gate of the Inferno, cash account, register of correspondence, names and addresses, memos and reminders for next year, as well as a variety of indispensable local information. It is, in a word, invaluable.

Dr. W. Van Der Heyden of Yokohama has sent us through Messrs. Kelly and Walsh, Ltd., a remarkable pamphlet, illustrated with photographs and diagrams, entitled *Description of a newly devised Sanitary Building*, of which we hope shortly to give a longer account.

On Wednesday morning at about 9 o'clock, a collision occurred on the river between the M.M. Co.'s steamer *Salazie*, bound to Wosung, and the C.N. Co.'s steamer *Soochow*, from sea. The accident happened in the "chow chow" water and was witnessed by many people from the Garden and foreshore. Apparently the *Salazie* was trying to get the outside place, as she had no room on the Garden side, while the *Soochow*, as in duty bound, endeavoured to accommodate her, but there was not sufficient space for the manoeuvre to be executed and the *Soochow* struck the *Salazie* on the starboard side abreast of the engine room, smashing three or four of her plates and doing some other damage, all, however, above the water line. The *Soochow*, herself, had her stem broken and bent. The *Salazie* proceeded to one of the buoys off the Associated Wharves and the *Soochow* anchored, but afterwards went on to her wharf. The damage done to the mail boat will be temporarily repaired and will not necessitate a delay in her departure, while the repairs to the *Soochow* will probably take some nine or ten days.

The *Kaifong*, from Hongkong, was the means of saving the lives of four men and a boy on Sunday afternoon when a capsized junk was observed. A boat was lowered and the people taken off. They stated that they had been six hours in the water, and that one man was drowned when the junk capsized. The men were brought on to Shanghai. There were lots of native craft about but none of their crews made any attempt to save the castaways. On Monday when passing Steep Island Light, signals were observed asking the steamer to stop and take a sick lightkeeper to Shanghai. This was acceded to and the sick man, who was suffering from jaundice, was safely landed here.

The Chinese ironclad *Tingyuen* grounded on the outer bar at about 7 a.m. on Saturday, but she floated in the afternoon about 4 o'clock and proceeded to her anchorage at Wosung. On Sunday there were five Chinese cruisers at anchor outside the Wosung spit buoy, whilst anchored at Wosung there were in addition to the ironclad four cruisers, a sloop, and four gun-boats.

The U.S.S. *Monowey* returned on Monday from target practice off the Saddle Islands. She experienced a strong gale from the N.W., but sustained no injury.

H.M.S. *Plover* has gone up to Wuhu. The *Redpole* left on Friday for Hongkong via Amoy, and the *Porpoise*, as at present arranged, is to leave for Hongkong on Boxing Day.

The *City of Rio de Janeiro*, with Shanghai dates to 25th November, arrived at San Francisco on the 17th instant.

The *Belgic*, with San Francisco dates to the 30th November, arrived at Yokohama on Tuesday, and her mails may be expected next Tuesday.

The *Sachsen* left Singapore for Hongkong and Shanghai on Saturday at 10 a.m. with the German mail of 20th November.

The D.D.R. steamer *Frigga*, which left Singapore on the 1st instant, has put into Saigon for coals.

The *Melbourne*, with the French mail, left Singapore at 9 p.m. on Wednesday for Hongkong and Shanghai.

The R.M.S. *Empress of India* arrived at Vancouver on Wednesday, the 20th inst., at 10 a.m.

The O. & S. S. Co.'s *Oceanic* arrived at San Francisco on the 12th inst.

An Indian contemporary states that Huel-Huan, the Chinese Imperial Commissioner for the settlement of the Sikkim trade regulations, had so far recovered from his recent illness as to be able to travel. He was expected to reach Darjiling from Tibet on the 21st ult.

We have received Hongkong papers to the 16th inst. They contain long accounts of the very attractive Moving Wax-works Exhibition given by Mr. and Mrs. G. B. Dodwell at their house at the Peak on the 9th, in aid of the funds of St. Peter's Seamen's Church new organ fund. Mr. J. D. Lapraik was the showman.—Ceylon is going to spend a further sum of £527,000 on the improvement of Colombo harbour.—There was a fire at No. 11, Bonham Strand, Hongkong, on the 9th, in which Messrs. Reuter, Brökelmann's Insurance Offices were interested to the extent of \$5,000, and another in Queen's Road West on the 10th, in which the North British and Mercantile were interested.—A sum of \$525 was realised by Mr. and Mrs. Dodwell's Wax-works Exhibition.—The *Courrier d'Haiphong* proposes that, as the local match manufactories can supply all the demands of Tongking, the importation of matches should be entirely forbidden.—The Shanghai correspondent of the *Courrier d'Haiphong* explains, at the commencement of a very sympathetic account of the Shanghai Jubilee, that as long as ago as 1841 foreigners, both Americans and Europeans, had legally established themselves on the site of the present French Concession, which had been previously ceded to them by the Chinese authorities. "In 1841 the trade between Europeans and Chinese had become so extensive that the Taotai was daily asked to authorise the purchase of ground on the part which has become the foreign settlement. Accordingly in July, 1842, the European Ministers at Peking applied to the Tsungli Yamen to obtain the new site which had become indispensable. The concession was granted in 1843."—The top storey of a house, No. 99, Praya West, was burnt out on the 13th. The building was insured for \$6,500 with Messrs. Kruse & Co.—It is publicly announced that Count d'Arnoux, lately of the I.M. Customs here, has been appointed Director of the Revenues ceded to the Caisse of the Public Debt at Constantinople.—The *Siam Observer* mentions that the serious illness of the King of Siam was the cause of the recent sudden despatch of British men-of-war to Bangkok. The King is now better.—M. Le Myre de Vilers went home in the *Caledonien*.—The well-known giant Chang died at Bournemouth on the 5th ult.—The *Alacrité*, with Admiral Fremantle on board, arrived at Hongkong on the 15th.—There has been a great fire at Santa Cruz da Laguna in the Philippines, in which 150 brick houses, and 400 huts were destroyed.—M. Hardouin, who has been most useful to France in Siam, has been appointed Consul, and provisionally attached to the French Legation at Bangkok.

The *China Mail* says:—Captain Castle, of H.M.S. *Leander*, has been appointed to take charge of the Steam Reserve and Naval Establishments at Sydney, vice Captain St. Clair. The command of the *Leander* will be taken by Captain Count Frederick Cosmeto Metaxa.

In reference to the telegram as to the disfavour with which a British dollar is regarded in Hongkong, we may well quote *verbatim* the following remarks on the subject from the Governor of Hongkong's recent speech to the Legislative Council:—"In connection with the fall of silver and the scarcity of the circulating medium in Hongkong and elsewhere in the East, it is probable, unless the Japanese yen is made

a legal tender, that action will shortly be taken in the direction of the coinage of a British dollar. I understand that some of the Banks are in favour of this step, and that they have arrived at their conclusion in consequence of the lengthened period during which the Mexican exchange has been unable to adapt itself to the fall in the price of silver. Should any application from the Banks in Hongkong urging the coinage, and introduction into the Colony, of a British dollar be received by the Government, I will use all my influence with the Home Government in support of that request."

The *Daily Press* on the 11th makes the following explanation:—"In our leading article of Saturday a mistake was made in confusing the British Broken Hill Company with the Broken Hill Proprietary Company. The former purchased a portion of the latter's property, which has turned out comparatively worthless, but the Proprietary Company's own mines are still doing well, the net amount earned during the half year ended the 31st May last, as shown in the profit and loss account, being £419,207. The evidence in favour of an early advance in the price of silver is therefore not so strong as it was made to appear, but it is still strong. The amount of silver produced at the Broken Hill Proprietary Company's mines during the half-year was 5,972,194 ounces, and the earnings having been £419,207, it would appear that the price would have to fall about 1s. 4d. an ounce below the average rate for the half-year in question before the mines ceased to show a profit."

The leading article in the *Daily Press* of the 12th inst. refers to "the statement made by a Hankow correspondent that the Wuchang cotton cloth mill is shut down in consequence of its inability to support the crowd of *weinyans* with which it was saddled." As a matter of fact, so far from being shut down, or having been shut down, the Viceroy's mill has been and is working day and night, and is still unable to keep pace with the demands on it. So eager are buyers to get its product that they pay their money beforehand, and then have to content themselves with what they can get. As the Viceroy's spinning mill cannot supply his looms fast enough with yarn, although no yarn whatever is sold, he has just made another contract for a new, large, spinning mill, all the machinery for which will come from England. It may be mentioned, to show the thoroughness with which the Viceroy has gone into this enterprise, that his mills are completely provided with apparatus for checking fires, the water service with automatic sprinklers being as complete as in the most modern mills at home. When a foreigner visited the mills the other day, the alarm of fire was given, and the mills were almost instantly flooded with water. This is a considerable contrast to the state of affairs in the great mills recently burnt at Yangtze-poo, where the managers refused, we are told, the offer of the Waterworks Company to put a complete water service in the mills for some fifteen hundred taels or so.

According to the *Siam Observer*, the directors of the Bangkok Tramway Company will in all probability advise a dividend of ten per cent. on the present half-year's working, in their ensuing report. The Paknam Railway Co. will pay about 4 per cent. on the half-year, making 6 per cent. in eight and a half months—not bad for the first year, and such a year.

We have received Japan papers with dates from Yokohama and Nagasaki to the 13th, and Kobe the 14th inst.—The action against the *Arctic* met the same fate, dismissal, as the action against the *Maud S.*—The Hoshi affair ended in the suspension of Mr. Hoshi for one week.—The shareholders of Messrs. Deakin Bros. & Co., Ltd., have decided unanimously at an extraordinary general meeting: "That the Company may from time to time reduce

its capital."—The torpedo-boat recently sunk was raised and was being towed to the naval yard at Yokosuka by the *Yokosuka Maru*, when the *Musashi Kan* took her in charge, and towed her so fast that she sank again in 18 fathoms.—The *Miwera* is still on the reef at Honolulu. Her captain, Stott, has been acquitted of all blame by the Naval Court.—The license of the pilot who was in charge of the *City of New York* when she stranded at San Francisco has been revoked.—News had been received of the loss of an Osaka-owned steamer at a place in the Hiroshima prefecture on the 10th, with the loss of ten passengers.—The application of the P. & O. Co. to have the petition of the relatives of those lost in the *Chishima Kan* dismissed was heard on the 11th by Judge Mowat, who granted the application and dismissed the petition.—The hull, masts, stores, etc., not salvaged, of the *Schliemann*, wrecked on Vries Island, were put up to auction at Yokohama on the 7th, and sold for \$6,200 to a Japanese. Her cargo of oil, which is scattered about on many shores, and partly picked up by junks and carried to various ports, sold for \$20,050.—The new U.S. cruiser *New York* draws two feet more water than was intended, and she cannot get into any dock in the States, and it has been found necessary to take out her torpedo tubes.—The China Mutual Co.'s steamer *Oopack* is reported sold to the Nippon Yusen Kaisha.

In "Topics of the Week" in the *Singapore Free Press* we read:—"Perfidy Albion!" at it again, but perhaps in such a way that this time no evil intent will be found to lurk beneath. H.M.S. *Pallas* has had an engagement with a French vessel. It was of very short duration, and the affair has now been happily broken off. The French mail steamer *Godavery* having the bad luck to wedge herself hard and fast on a coral reef was in an uncommon bad way. When the *Pallas* turned up to try and drag her off, there was much shaking of heads. But who was the naval officer so lost to a sense of propriety as to say, "She'll never get off; she's got a very poor chance" (*collapse on Captain's appearance*)? Hard work had its reward at last. Capt. McLeod has had the pleasure of extricating a French vessel from a "terrible fix," and the screws of the *Pallas* have done quite a number of good turns for France.

The *London & China Express* of the 10th ult. says:—

A telegram from San Francisco states:—After good deal hard work wrecking party have abandoned to her fate steamer *City of New York*, that went aground on rocks at mouth of the bay some days ago. A number of tugs were brought into play to pull her off the rocks, but a heavy sea caused steamer to slip back, which tore another great hole in her bottom. The sea rushed in through the cavity in such mass that water in hold rose two feet, which put an end to all hopes of saving her. A good deal of the cargo has been lost.

In the Tea market there has been a recovery from the "bargains" obtainable say three weeks ago, but it applies more to British-grown Tea. China has not much influence on the current business, and prices do not fluctuate like Indian Tea has been doing the last few months. At the same time, the future prospects for China Tea have distinctly improved. Tea men of the Fokien province appear to have at last realised the position, and they have sent supplies to Foochow this season that can profitably compete with leaf from any quarter. India Tea has commanded attention, and prices are ½d. per lb. better for the 7d. to 10d. kinds; finer grades steady in moderate supplies. Ceylon is in good demand, and now that the higher grades are scarce everybody is asking for them.

The *Standard's* Bangkok correspondent, writing on the 1st of October, says:—"As an example of the ingrained insouciance of these strange people, it may be remarked

that during the last few weeks only two responsible Ministers have been in town. The rest have been at the summer residence of the King, where a continual round of festivities is the order of the day and night. Whilst the French Minister was preparing to leave the capital and the French were fortifying and increasing their garrison at Chantaboon, the King of Siam was busy giving prizes for the best sample of illumination in his palace grounds at Bangpao. No better example could be afforded of the absolute indifference and apathy of both people and rulers to the danger to their country. Nero fiddling while Rome was burning presents a respectable spectacle compared with the "mudpie" making of the Bangkok Court while a French Protectorate was within measurable distance of destroying the "autonomy and integrity" of the Kingdom.

The *Standard* of 6th November prints the following statement by Lord Lamington on the creation of a buffer State in Siam:—

"Being in ignorance of the actual basis of the negotiations for a buffer State, I can only assume that it will in all probability embrace that territory lying between the Mekong and Nam U rivers. In this case we shall be surrendering a portion of the State of Kiang Kheng, which we only recently exchanged with Siam in the delimitation of frontiers with that country, and on the express condition that Kiang Kheng should never be handed over to another Power. If, then, we should, for the purpose of making a settlement with France, give up a State under our sovereignty, France also should make a similar sacrifice. Prince Henri d'Orléans, in his letter to the *Figaro*, talks of the French troops having crossed over the Nam U some time ago, and deprecates that any territory having already been occupied by the French should form part of the buffer State. But this statement would appear to be inaccurate, for I am absolutely unaware of there ever having been a French post west of the Nam U. Bien Phu or Muang Tang, some fifty miles east, was their most advanced post."

"In any case it is essential that the Mekong Valley north of Chiengsen should not be in the hands of any European Power other than our own. The reason is that a railway is sure to be constructed in the future, on either one bank or the other of the river, as the country is fertile, and offers no especial engineering difficulties. Such a line would be in prolongation of a railway through Siam, and probably in connection with one from Burma. If the buffer State is to have the Mekong for its western boundary, careful examination should be given to see what facilities for the development of trade or the making of railways either France or Great Britain will have. The Government of this new State will be handed over, presumably, to Siam. The anomaly will then arise of two strong Powers fashioning a State, and handing it over to the safe keeping of a country recently worsted with scarcely a blow struck by one of the contracting parties. It follows that the existence of this buffer State depends upon the frontiers being most clearly defined, while the agreements as to trade must be perfectly impartial, the guarantee for the integrity of the State being at the same time rendered as stringent as Treaties can make it. It may be questioned whether it would not be simpler, and far less likely to provoke irritation and friction, if spheres of influence were to be recognised, having the mountain chain lying between the Mekong and the Nam U as the dividing line. From the lack of information as to the lines on which the negotiations are based, it can only be repeated that, as our Eastern frontier of Burma already abuts on the waters of the Upper Mekong, it is desirable, for the interests of both France and Great Britain, that the influence of the former should not be permitted to be established in any part of the Upper Valley."

Miscellaneous Articles.

AN EXAMINATION SCANDAL.

18th Dec.

IN our abstract of the *Peking Gazette* published this morning our readers will find two memorials—one by a Censor and the other by the Governor of Chékiang. The papers in question deal with a case of attempted bribery alleged to have been perpetrated upon an Imperial Examiner specially delegated by the Throne last September to preside over the "Grace Examinations" of Chékiang, as this functionary was passing Soochow *en route* for Hangchow, the capital of that province. A man named Chou Fu-ts'ing, a Secretary of the Grand Secretariat and an official of the fourth grade, now absent on mourning leave of absence from Peking, is charged with having written a letter to the Chief Examiner, Ying Ju-chang, accompanied by an order for \$10,000 on a native bank at Soochow, requesting this last-named official to pass six candidates—one of whom was the son of the writer—who were going to compete at the approaching examination for the *Chujén* or Provincial graduate degree. "On receipt of this letter and cheque," say the two memorials, "the Chief Examiner at once ordered the arrest of the bearer of the missive and turned him over to the Prefect of Soochow for examination, requesting also that the delinquent should be sent on to Hangchow for trial by the high authorities of that province, etc." This, as our readers are aware, is what is called the "official version;" but the popular story, which has been set afloat by an eye-witness of the occurrence, is somewhat different.

It appears that the author of the letter in question, Chou Fu-ts'ing, who is a native of the city of Shaoching, happened one day to be in the company of the parents and relatives of the five candidates above named and remarked that the Chief Imperial Examiner of Chékiang was an Academy or College mate of his. He must also have said that he possessed some influence with that official, for Chou was at once approached by these gentlemen—members of the Chékiang gentry—who asked him to write a letter on behalf of their sons, (with his own son thrown in *gratis*), and subscribed the sum of \$10,000 for the purpose in view. Chou, who saw an opportunity for his own son, of course accepted the office of "go-between," but fearing that his own servant, a native of Peking, would be detected and recognised by the men on board the Examiner's boat, he borrowed a servant from one of the above referred to gentlemen, and started at once for Soochow so as to be in time to catch the Examiner's boat as it was passing that city, *en route*. But this messenger must have been very inexperienced in the art of carrying secret notes, for when he had given the letter to the Examiner's *aide-de-camp*, instead of leaving the

boat at once, he began, after waiting awhile, to clamour for an answer. It so happened that Ying Ju-chang was entertaining the Prefect of Soochow, and the Second Chancellor or Assistant Examiner, on board his house-boat, and it is reported that when the missive was handed to him, he, in a fit of absent-mindedness, quietly put it into his pocket without opening it before his colleague, or asking the latter to do so, as he was bound by the etiquette of the occasion to have done. At this juncture, the *aide* came in again and said that an answer was required and that the bearer was making himself a nuisance about it. There was therefore no help for it, and in justice to his colleague it became necessary to see what the letter contained that so urgently required an answer. No sooner, however, had the letter been abstracted from the envelope, than the bank order fell to the ground, fluttering to the feet of the local official. The latter at once picked it up, and glancing at it, with a smile offered it to the Chief Examiner. Of course it was stoutly refused. The letter was then handed over to the Assistant Examiner, and he having read it, it was decided that the bearer of the missive should be taken on shore again, and examined by the Prefect who also took the papers with him back to his *yamen*. Here, however, we must pause.

The Chief Examiner had been guilty of a gross breach of etiquette in the eyes of his colleague. For, to avoid cases like this, it is the rule that on such occasions the Literary Chancellors (of whom there are always two sent to, each province) should open each other's letters. In other words, letters addressed to A are always sent to B to be opened and read first by him, and *vice versa*. In this way there is no chance of a one-sided bribery, although it is considered to be very "bad form" to write at all to these officials before they have completed their duties. On this occasion, the Chief Examiner's only excuse for having outraged the proprieties was his apparent fit of absent-mindedness in putting the letter into his own pocket instead of into the hands of his colleague. As he was the Chief, the Assistant-Examiner would probably not have insisted upon reading the former's letter, and in all likelihood no one else would have been the wiser had not the uproar created by the bearer produced a result which will make things go hard with the writer of it. Chou has since given himself over to the authorities, riding, by the way, in a four-bearer official sedan chair for the purpose, and has himself asked that he should be sent up to Peking for trial by the Board of Punishments. His friends claim that he is a monomaniac having gone crazy through over-study and that his character is that of an "idiosyncratic bookworm."

This is perhaps borne out by the following incident which is given as a plea. Many years ago when first as a *chinshih* or metropolitan graduate Chou

was made a district magistrate, he was appointed to Tai-pinghsien, Anhui. This place has been made famous by its praises being sung by the author of the *Liaochai*—some of whose classical stories have been made known to foreigners by Mr. H. A. Giles' translations—in which the inhabitants are styled "the most unoffensive and law-abiding people of Kiangnan province." But this might have been so during the Ming or previous dynasty—17th century—at the time the author of the *Liaochai* wrote about them. Nowadays, however, it is just the contrary, for the people of Tai-pinghsien are noted as the most desperate of all the ruffians who smuggle salt in the Yangtze provinces. Chou, being an enthusiastic admirer of the *Liaochai* and its author, sympathised, as might be expected, with his "poor, unoffensive and law-abiding children of Tai-pinghsien," so, upon entering upon his office, he immediately cleared his prisons of their inmates, by which means many desperate smugglers and highwaymen were once more let loose upon those who were really inoffensive. He then capped the climax by issuing a proclamation upon the occasion, telling his people that he considered them to be only what the author of the *Liaochai* termed them, and quoting in full the latter's words in connection with Tai-pinghsien. Of course, as was to be expected, robberies and salt smuggling became the order of the day; but the captured men were immediately set free by the new magistrate, who is also said to have given each ruffian he let loose a copy of the *Liaochai*, with the paternal advice to go and do likewise.

This state of things soon got to the ears of the late Shên Pao-chên (of Woosung Railroad notoriety) then Viceroy of the Liangkiang provinces, who at once wrote a letter to the Governor of Anhui with a copy of Chou's proclamation enclosed, asking him whether he would prefer to denounce the unheard-of conduct of Chou himself or whether he would rather Shên himself should memorialise against the district magistrate. The Governor of Anhui, who appeared indeed, to be amused at the idiosyncrasies of Chou rather than otherwise, was thus forced to denounce him to the Throne, but he added a saving clause, by recommending the "bookworm" to the more congenial atmosphere of Peking, whence, through family and personal influence, he has risen to his present rank, of which he has again been deprived by a recent edict. Since the memorials under review, gigantic frauds have been discovered at Peking and lately exposed by the memorials of certain Censors.

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THE SUNGPU SETTLEMENT.

19th Dec.

Our Hankow correspondent gives, in another column, further details of the settlement between Consul-General Bock and the Viceroy Chang Chih-tung of the Sungpu Case. In the first place we are glad to know that even those who are most disappointed with the terms of the settlement bear testimony to the energy and thoroughness displayed by Mr. Bock on his recent visit to Hankow. "He has fought a hard battle," we are told, "for nearly three weeks with an old man who won't budge an inch for a Consul-General, not even with all the Ministers and the Tsungli Yamèn at his back. He did not give in without a good fight this time." The criticism lavished on Mr. Bock on account of his first visit to Wuchang was not thrown away. The first of the terms obtained by Mr. Bock, as mentioned by our correspondent, was "Two heads." As there is little likelihood that the heads in question will be those of men really guilty of the murder of Messrs. Wikholm and Johansson, we are glad to read that Mr. Bock said ultimately that he would not insist on this point. What the Diplomatic Body and the public have insisted on is that the guilty parties shall be punished, and as there has been no satisfactory enquiry to determine who the guilty parties are, we must leave the Chinese authorities entirely responsible for whatever decapitation or strangling they may decide on. The same remark applies to the second term, the promise that ten persons shall be banished. Until a proper court, with a competent foreign assessor, has decided who the guilty parties are, we do not want any one banished, and it is very suspicious that the Chinese authorities designate for exile some of those who were most friendly to the murdered missionaries. The third term is the payment of an indemnity of nominally Tls. 40,000, really, we believe, Tls. 32,000. Unfortunately, ever since we made treaties with China, we have exacted indemnities in money for wrongs committed by the Chinese; and if it is understood that this is not the price of the murdered men, but is to be an assistance to their families, we cannot find fault with Mr. Bock for taking it, though we may know that it will come directly or indirectly, out of the pockets of innocent people. The removal of the Machêng hsien, the fourth term obtained, is a farce, as a similar promise has proved to be in other cases. Probably the most important term of all is the re-establishment of the mission at Sungpu, which the Viceroy has succeeded in getting postponed. He offered, we are told, to build a church or a hospital somewhere else, but he would not agree to the missionaries going back to Sungpu, where the people have been so harried by the minions of the Machêng hsien, that the very name of missionary stinks in their nostrils.

In the Wusueh case reinstatement was insisted on, and the mission was at once re-established on the same site as before, and this point should have been held to, as the Viceroy is perfectly able to protect missionaries there to-day, if he determines to do it. It would be with rather a grim smile that he would receive the announcement—in reference to any other matter than this—that his writ does not run in Sungpu.

The matter is settled as far as Mr. Bock and Sweden are concerned, we must suppose, but it is not settled as far as the Diplomatic Body is concerned. They took the matter up, promptly and properly, as one interesting all foreigners in China, and we hold that they cannot let it drop until the Tsungli Yamèn has satisfactorily proved to them that the really guilty parties have been punished. Messrs. Lund and Lindstrom, of the Swedish Mission at Hankow, have gone to Peking, with four of the principal refugees from Hokiapu, with the double purpose of getting the Diplomatic Body to insist on a proper enquiry being yet made, and of getting the Emperor to do justice—for it is in his name, at any rate, that justice must be done—in the matter of these poor victims of the barbarity of the Machêng magistrate. It is perfectly consonant with Chinese ideas to have a case of injustice appealed to Peking and a new trial ordered. Though we must all of us feel the deepest sympathy with those who have suffered for their kindness to foreigners, and the fiercest indignation at the recital of their sufferings, and must earnestly hope that they will find friends in high places at Peking, without whose hope we fear they cannot look for justice, this is not a matter in which the foreign communities can interfere. It is the misfortune of these victims of official oppression to be Chinese, and therefore amenable to Chinese laws, and to the Chinese administrators of those laws appointed by their own government. But we have the right and the duty to urge the Diplomatic Body, in the interest of all foreigners in China, to insist on the truth of the Sungpu affair being elicited by a competent court in which we can have confidence; and there is one farther and very important demand that the Diplomatic Body should make on the Tsungli Yamèn. That is, that a proclamation should be issued and posted up at Sungpu and in all the district round, reciting the terms that have been exacted from the Viceroy in part satisfaction for the outrage of last July, and warning the people that foreigners are to be treated properly under all circumstances, and that the whole force at the disposal of the government will be used to prevent any attack on or any injury to foreigners and their property. Throughout the discussion of the Sungpu case we have called not for vengeance, but for the prevention of future outrages; and a proper proclamation, honestly worded, and honestly

brought to the notice of every Chinaman within a radius of thirty miles from Sungpu would undoubtedly have the desired effect.

THE SUPERNATURAL IN CHINA.

21st Dec.

RENAN says: "The East has never known the purely intellectual greatness which has no need of miracles. It cares little for a learned man who is not a wonder-worker. It has never attained to perfect brightness of conscience; it has always seen nature and history with the eyes of a child. But China ought always to be excepted when the last is mentioned. China is endowed with a clear and positive instinct of the finite. They are the least supernatural of all people, and there lies the secret of their mediocrity. It is fine to have dreamed in infancy like the European, and not to dream always like the Hindoo." Then he adds that the advantage of having dreamed in one's infancy as the European has done is, that there remains a perfume which like a tradition of poetry pleases age when we imagine no longer.

All the world knows that Renan did not believe in the supernatural, and yet loved what to his consciousness was the holy Christian tradition in the faith in which he had been brought up. He could not believe that God would by a positive and visible act of power interfere supernaturally in the course of ordinary nature to teach mankind great moral truths. Reason conquered faith in his mind, and faith became sentiment only, or was it rather that to him the visions of his youth kept returning upon the faithful mirror of the memory so that there was a constant struggle in his soul between the torch of reason and the torch of faith as to which should shine the brighter? To the last he had a warm sympathy for Christianity, especially in the form of Catholicism. An enemy to priests, he loved the theory of Christianity, the high morality of Christ, and the inspiring ideal of the Bible.

But what of Renan's saying that the Chinese have no fancy for the supernatural? This is not the case. In the growth of early Taoism it was the instinct for the supernatural that gave the three philosophers Lao, Chuang, and Lieh, their popularity. This was in the Chou dynasty. The efforts of Confucianism to put down the rising tide of supernaturalism quite failed. Also the poet Chüyuen and his contemporaries and successors helped to elaborate a mythology in harmony with the efforts of the Taoist. With the mathematical science and astronomy of the West, there was a large importation of Western mythology in the form of pictures and legends. The reading of Chuangtze is very different from the Chinese classics. The classics are uncoloured. They detail sober fact. In Chuangtze, imagination

runs riot in depicting nature and in inventing dialogue. Liehtsi delights in describing the power of the magician. The calm of the historian is, in the Shichi, interrupted by the relation of the ascension of an ancient Emperor Huang Ti to heaven, borne by dragons, and attended by a large retinue. The historian Szemach'ien is too fond of mythology, and he is condemned, for example, by Wenchungze, A.D. 600, for his Taoist proclivities, because his influential example led later occupants of the chair of the historian to show too great a fondness for marvellous narratives. Is not this same liking for myths a proof that the Chinese are fond of superstitious narratives? In the Tsochuan, Confucius, when twenty-seven years old, is related to have heard some mythical stories. For example, the Emperor Huang Ti came to his rule with the omen of a cloud, and therefore he had cloud officers, naming them after clouds. Shen Nung came to his with the omen of fire, and therefore he had fire officers, naming them after fire. Fuh Hi came to his rule with the omen of a dragon, and therefore he had dragon officers, naming them after dragons. Confucius heard this story, had an interview with Viscount Tan, and learned from him more of these myths. Afterwards the Sage said to those round him, "When the Emperor's officers do not act in their posts as their duty requires we may well learn from the four barbarians that of which the knowledge is lost." Confucius did not discredit such stories when told him. To him every ancient tradition was valuable. The same is true of Mencius, who has retained some myths of early antiquity of the times of Yao and Shun. Myth-making began in the age of these two philosophers, and continued afterwards to increase in its influence on peoples' minds till the entrance of Buddhism, about A.D. 66. Philosophers and poets combined to develop myths in conformity with the spirit of that age, when the plant of immortality and the elixir of life were the objects of search. The Chinese showed themselves to be really fond of myth; not that they invented it entirely by a spontaneous effort. Foreign ideas pressed into the country and suggested mythology, and they began to weave it. This is the best way to account for their belief for instance in Hweilu, god of fire, and Hiuenming, god of water. These deities were supposed to be able to save from fire and from flood if sacrifices were offered to them.

If to this we add that the whole of the Taoist mythology was formulated by Chinese authors in part copying Buddhist models and in part incorporating China's own traditions, it becomes still more plain that when they have models before them this race is really in love with mythology. What is *fungshui* but a belief in the influence of good and malicious spirits present anywhere and operating powerfully, so as to render the residents in any locality fortunate or unfortunate, rich or poor?

The reason why the Chinese are really very superstitious is that there is no contrariety between mythological inventions and the indulgence of their national spirit of industry. If mythology were incompatible with practical habits and material aims they would refuse to believe in mythologies, but there is no such incompatibility. The native woman can spin her yarn and weave her nankeen and still believe that foreign women devoted to good works can and do gouge out infants' eyes to make magical drugs. They prefer the marvellous to the common when they have not books, learning, or leisure to examine doubtful points for themselves. Even the literary class are superstitious. Perhaps the majority believe in *fungshui* and do so without first inquiring whether there is any foundation for it in fact or not. When asked they deny their belief in this nonsense, but when unobserved they see the geomancer like other people, and show by yielding to the common native opinion that superstition rules them as well as the multitude. Buddhism is properly atheistic, yet as professed in China it is a religion of many gods, and this is because the Chinese mind is inclined to mythology. So far from being of all races the least fond of the supernatural they have a real delight in it, and many of the histories made by command of Emperors have special chapters containing portents and lucky occurrences. A look at the Imperial almanacs is enough to show that superstition in China clouds the intellect of the people and largely checks the advance of science. In Taoism and Buddhism China took what India gave. It is only since Christianity and science came together to the country that China has shown signs of waking from her sleep of ages and coming out into the daylight of truth. Evidently M. Renan only knew the Confucian books and these were written before the superstitious age.

THE EASTERN EXTENSION TELEGRAPH CO.

22nd Dec.

FOREIGNERS who traded in China before it was connected with the outside world by telegraph cables are generally convinced that these cables are one of the causes why the trade has "gone to the dogs," but they are obliged at least to confess that if the cables are an injury, they are an inevitable one. If we must have cable communication with Europe, it is as well that one line at least should be in English hands, and that it should be in a sufficiently assured financial position, and it was natural that we should feel some anxiety when we were practically told not long since that unless the Eastern Extension Company raised its home rate by fifteen per cent., it could not go on paying its way. It is therefore satisfactory to learn from the report of the fortieth ordinary general meeting of the Company, held at London on the 1st of November, that notwithstanding

the fall in exchange and the competition of the Chinese lines, the Company over which Sir John Pender, G.C.M.G., M.P., presides, is still able to keep its head above water—a metaphor which, by-the-by, appears somewhat inappropriate in the case of a submarine cable Company. From Sir John Pender's address to his anxious shareholders we learn that the Company's gross revenue for the first half of 1893 was £257,986, an increase of £10,998 over 1892, while the working expenses were £78,229, showing a decrease of £1,052. The usual interim dividend at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum had been paid, absorbing £62,500, and the trifling balance of £81,116 remained to be carried forward, against £70,271 for the corresponding period of 1892. When one of Sir John Pender's companies is earning in hard times over ten per cent. on its capital, anxiety for its shareholders is superfluous. It must be remembered, too, that from the profits there has been deducted a loss of over £14,000 due to the reduction in the Australian tariff, a loss that is not expected to recur, "owing to the additional (nimble) 9d. that was added to the tariffs at the request of the Colonies having come into force on January 1st last, and to the abnormally large traffic that was carried a few months ago, when the bank reconstruction schemes were being arranged." So the financial crash in Australia, ill wind as it was, blew good to the Eastern Extension's shareholders.

A good deal of nonsense has been written about the want of patriotism that Queensland and New South Wales have exhibited in subsidising the French cable to New Caledonia, a step which has been excused on the ground that this will be a link in the projected line between Australia and Canada. Sir John Pender, who pricks up his ears the moment there is a noise of competition in the air, is quite sure that this cable will never come to anything. There is no earthly use, he says, for a Pacific cable, as the Colonies have got a reliable service now, and cannot afford to construct another. "Governments do not go into transactions of this kind for the purpose of losing money, and if they were to endeavour to introduce any such system in opposition to commercial enterprise, I am perfectly sure that they would not have the sympathy of either England or of their own Colonies. It might cheapen the tariffs a little, but I think that with the position we occupy now—not only through our reserve fund, which is large, but also through our financial arrangements with the Colonies—they are not likely to become parties to any large amount in any such arrangement. . . . When another system is required for connecting the old country with the Australian Colonies you may depend upon it that we shall have a finger in the pie." It is no wonder that this proud assurance was received with applause by the shareholders of the Company: as to the

customers, they have the satisfaction of knowing that they have been squeezed and are still being squeezed to enable their oppressors to build up a reserve fund, which, as Sir John Pender threatens, will be used to prevent any attempt to secure by competition a lower tariff.

Of more immediate importance, however, to us in China who will certainly see a Pacific cable laid sooner or later, in spite of Sir John Pender's discouragement, are his remarks on the negotiations that have been in progress for a good many years for strengthening the China section of the Company's system. Only the other day we suffered from the inconvenience of the Singapore-Cape St. James cable being interrupted; and it is not well that our two lines of communication with the West are under the control of France and Russia respectively. Sir John mentions too, that experience clearly points to this—that where commerce is being based, as it is now, on telegraphic communication, a single line is not sufficient to maintain the regularity of such a system. Accordingly at the end of October, he tells the shareholders, "we signed and sealed an agreement which will justify us in laying another cable from Singapore to Hongkong, connecting *en route* Labuan, near to British North Borneo, which has hitherto been without telegraphic communication with the rest of the world. If we have not got money we have obtained certain privileges and advantages, of which I am not prepared to tell you all the details to-day, but of which by-and-by you will know something more. I think, however, that I may say this—that what we have obtained will be quite as valuable, if not more so, than if we had got the money we originally asked for." This mysterious statement was also received with applause—from the shareholders.

Sir John Pender went on to deplore in graceful terms the loss of his late colleague Sir James Anderson, whose having command of the *Great Eastern* when she was employed in laying one of the Atlantic cables led him to devote himself to submarine telegraphy and become one of Sir John's most constant supporters. Sir John felt justified, however, in assuring the shareholders that the loss was not of supreme importance to the Company. "We have now," he said, "placed our system upon such good foundations that with careful attention and the oil that is necessary to be applied to the working of any great machine, it will run perfectly smoothly, so that we may continue to occupy the proud position which we now hold and upon which we may all congratulate ourselves. I believe there are very few Chairmen who have had of late the opportunity of submitting to their shareholders, as I have done to-day, such a very satisfactory report on the past six months' working, and you may well be proud of it. (Hear, hear.)" All this, as well, apparently, as the allusion to the "oil," led up to an announcement to which again only Sir John Pender's own

words can do justice. "In consideration of the ever-increasing duties and responsibilities devolving on the management, and to the fact that the duties of Managing Director have been performed by myself without salary ever since the death of Col. Glover twelve years ago, the Board have thoughtfully—and I might almost say wisely—proposed, as I have performed the duties, to add to my remuneration the salary that used to be paid to the Managing Director. (Cheers.)" The most surprising thing about this is that Sir John should have done all this work for twelve years without any additional salary. Sir John then added some remarks as to the satisfaction with which he heard the cheers that greeted his statement, and as to the certainty that the shareholders could not have such good Directors unless they paid them well; and wound up with the statement of his hope that in six months' time the duplicate China cable will have been laid. With a most cordial vote of thanks to the Chairman and Directors, which Sir John said was what he might call a full and fair recognition of their services, the proceedings of the meeting terminated.

Reviews.

THE FRENCH MAIL PAPERS.

(FOR THE WEEK ENDING 10TH OF NOV.)

PARLIAMENT appears to have met for the Autumn Session with an intention to work, but circumstances have rendered it impossible to confine the business to the two Bills, the *Employers' Liability Bill*, which has safely passed both Houses, and the *Parish Councils Bill*, which is still in suspense, though its principle has been accepted by both parties. In reference to the programme with which the Session was opened, the *Standard* says:—

Mr. Gladstone's statement last night with respect to the understanding upon which the work of the Autumn Session is to be carried out was remarkably free from either ambiguity or obscurity. Parliament, he tells us, has been called together in November for the sake of passing two Bills, the *Parish Councils Bill* and the *Employers' Liability Bill*. To these two measures the whole time of the House will be devoted, and for these alone the Government make themselves responsible. Anything else that can be edged in of a non-contentious character will take its chance. But the main purpose of the Government is to pass the two measures we have named, and they think that when this result has been accomplished they will have kept faith both with the Conservatives and with their own supporters. There will be no private members' nights, and the Government are to have at least a clear five weeks before them for carrying out their Autumn programme. The Opposition have nothing to gain by taking exception to this arrangement, for their knowledge of which it is pretty clear that the Leaders of the Party were not indebted exclusively to Mr. Gladstone's statement. We may presume that the Government will do all that is necessary to see that the arrangement is carried out, and that Mr. Morley's answer to Mr. Sexton with regard to the *Evicted Tenants' Bill* came rather from his heart than from his head, and was dictated by the impulse of the moment.

The chief point of dispute between the two parties in the House as to the *Parish Councils Bill* seems to be the question of the retention of the present *Poor Law* system, as to which the *Manchester Guardian* says:—

Great pressure has been put upon the Government to drop the *Poor Law* proposals of the Bill. Mr. Acland, among others, has declared that they will do nothing of the kind, and it is needless to say that all Liberals are heartily with them on that point. All the elaborate anti-democratic machinery of the *ex officio* guardians and the plural vote is loomed. The working man has no love for loafers and shirkers, and we do not fear too indiscriminate outdoor relief. But that when he has the power he will draw a stronger line between the aged deserving poor and the loafers than the Boards of Guardians draw at present is not only probable but certain, and so much the better. The only doubtful point is whether the Bill should not give the *Parish Councils* some powers as regards the *Poor Law*, instead of leaving everything to the *District Councils*. They might at all events have powers of recommendation for outdoor relief—powers which would rest on the closest local knowledge, and which, granted adequate publicity and responsibility, would certainly not be abused. It is true that the Bill, though a good one, would be all the better for amendment. But it should be amendment such as will still further democratise and strengthen it. Amendment of the other kinds is absolutely inadmissible, and the Government should sacrifice their Bill, if necessary, rather than accept it.

The *Times* is very indignant with Mr. Gladstone for his statement that the Government "are perfectly satisfied as to the adequacy and capacity of the British Navy to perform all the purposes for which it exists;" but it ought not to have been so indignant, as Mr. Gladstone's statement is a high compliment to Lord Salisbury's Government, from whom the present Government have only lately taken over the Navy. "It will be necessary," says the *Times*, "for the public to correct the views of the Prime Minister on this point, and if the reputation of the Government is damaged in the process, it cannot be helped." It was the *Times* whose letters from Toulon started the present scare, which has been widely spread, as the following alarmist note from the *Graphic* shows:—

The wild cry which has been raised in France for the expulsion of "the Anglo-Saxon aliens" from the Mediterranean is a very natural and logical consequence of the Franco-Russian *fétter* at Toulon. The demand is too hysterical and premature to serve any immediately practical purpose, except, perhaps, to act as a warning to this country; but it more than justifies the fears expressed by not a few students of public affairs a fortnight ago that Great Britain had more to dread from the Toulon *entente* than either Germany or Austria. The idea of M. Deloncle and his brother hotheads seems to be that, while on land the Franco-Russian alliance shall act as a counterpoise to the Triple alliance, its rôle at sea shall be to serve as a nucleus for a further international combination, in which Turkey and Spain shall figure, with the object of putting an end to the naval supremacy so long enjoyed by Great Britain in the Mediterranean. It is a sort of cry of "Home Rule for the Mediterranean!" There are two sinister features in this agitation. In the first place, there seems to be good ground for the belief that, if our naval supremacy in the Mediterranean is not altogether gone, it is, at any rate, on the wane, our relative superiority to France having much diminished of late years. In the second place the dispute between Spain and Morocco affords France an opportunity just now of promoting a plan for strengthening anti-British influences on the Moorish coast facing Gibraltar which we may have some difficulty in thwarting. Our duty is, of course, clear. The interests at stake are too momentous to be made the subject of treaties with other Powers, even if it were the policy of this country to entangle itself with alliances. The Mediterranean is the high road of our Empire, and if once we lose the hegemony of it, the days of our widespread dominion are numbered. Our forces in that sea must be kept up to a degree of efficiency and strength largely superior to any possible combination that could be organised against us. That is our only course. Nor should any time be lost

in bringing up our naval force to the requisite strength. Explosive elements are abroad in the political atmosphere which render it as necessary for Great Britain to keep a vigilant eye on the efficiency of her navy, as for the Continental Powers to maintain their standing armies at a high standard of readiness. The last conflagration in Europe cost us the sacrifice of the Black Sea Treaty; the next, if we are not wary, may sweep our flag from the great water-way which runs from Suez to the Pillars of Hercules.

It is satisfactory to know that Mr. Gladstone's Government assume the responsibility for the war with Lobengula; otherwise we should be somewhat puzzled to know the rights of it, for the Conservative papers point out that the Blue Book shows that Lo Ben began the war and refused all offers of peace, while the Radical papers are equally convinced from the Blue Book "that the war was forced on Lo Ben, that no necessity existed for it, and that the reports of Matabele aggression were coloured and untrustworthy." Better to put it down to manifest destiny. Some of the French papers have been trying to persuade the Spaniards, with no foundation whatever for the statement, that England is jealous of her operations in Morocco, and the Spanish Government is informed in an address from M. Deloncle, that "the concentration of an English squadron at Gibraltar will not prevent the sons of the Cid from fulfilling their traditional mission on African soil."

We have had no detailed report hitherto of the dynamite disaster at Santander, and the following condensed account will be found interesting:—

A terrible disaster occurred at Santander on 3rd November. A Spanish steamer, the *Machichaco*, with a large quantity of what is alleged to have been contraband dynamite on board, caught fire, and while efforts were being made to extinguish the flames, the dynamite in the hold exploded, blowing the burning ship to atoms, completely wrecking the quay, which was crowded with spectators, and spreading destruction over an extensive area. It was soon found that the fire had secured so strong a hold that there was little or no hope of extinguishing it before the ship had been practically destroyed. A tug-boat was, therefore, called into requisition to tow the *Machichaco* away from the quay, and, if possible, right out into the Bay of Biscay. Meantime the fire had attracted to the harbour a large crowd of spectators, the wharf, as well as all the streets commanding a view of the harbour being crowded. The tug-boat was, at half-past four, lying alongside the *Machichaco* when a series of terrific explosions occurred. The burning ship and the tug both disappeared, both being blown out of the water, while all on board or in the immediate vicinity were killed instantly. The quay was not only completely wrecked, but its timbers, its ironwork, and the large crowd of human beings who were at the moment massed on the part of it nearest the *Machichaco's* berth were blown into the air. The shock caused by the explosion was felt in every part of the city, and over 100 houses were set on fire by the falling fragments of flaming wreckage. In the harbour the destruction of life and property was also appalling. A steamer, the *Alfonso XIII.*, which had gone to render assistance to the burning ship, was destroyed, and her crew, numbering about forty persons, all perished, while many smaller craft which were moored in the neighbourhood of the *Machichaco* were instantly sunk, and others were set on fire. One remarkable incident of the disaster was the destruction of a local railway train, which, laden with passengers, had just arrived at the station when the explosion occurred. The train was wrecked and set on fire, and many of the passengers are reported to have been killed. The inhabitants and authorities of the city appeared to be too panic-stricken to make any strenuous efforts to control the fires, which burned unchecked during the night in various parts of the city. Large numbers of people abandoned their homes, and fled into the fields and outlying villages.

The frontispiece of the *Pall Mall Budget* is a rather well-drawn political picture,

"The Snare of the Fowler." There is a very good sketch of Mr. Gladstone "In Harness Again," an interesting portrait of the Queen in her pony-chaise, and some good scenes from Sardou's new play, *Madame Sans-Gêne*. The "Warning to Amateur Reciters" is good, and the picture of "St. Paul's from the Shot Tower, Lambeth," admirable. The *St. James's* has as frontispiece a spirited battle-piece from Matabeleland, and interesting full page pictures of a "Farewell to the Old Folks," and of the new Tower Bridge, now nearly finished. The *Westminster's* frontispiece is frivolous—Miss Sylvia's Grey's new steps at the Gaiety, but it makes up for this by a touching full-page picture of "Famine." This number contains the first of an interesting series of reminiscences of Mr. Parnell by Mr. T. M. Healy, M.P., headed "A Great Man's Fancies."

The first leading article in the *Economist* is headed "The Telegram from the Czar," and opens as follows:—

The Emperor of Russia has felt it necessary, while forwarding to M. Carnot a telegram warmly expressing his thanks for the "splendid reception" which has been accorded to his squadron, to add that "the fresh link connecting the two countries will contribute to the maintenance of the general peace, the object of their effort, and of their most constant wishes." This has been accepted by the French Press as a sort of authoritative "cue," and the papers are now teeming with arguments to show that the Franco-Russian alliance is a new and a permanent guarantee of European peace. That is, of course, a pleasing line for them to take, and no doubt in one way it may be admitted to be substantially true. The alliance, now almost openly acknowledged, does produce a sort of equilibrium in the armed forces of Europe. The Triple Alliance and the Dual Alliance are not exactly equal, because the former could probably place the larger number of good troops in the shorter time on the actual campaigning grounds; but the numbers are quite equal enough to leave the chances of the campaigns, in the judgment of the best experts, entirely uncertain. Moreover, the frightful magnitude of the forces now certain to be employed increases greatly the reluctance to employ them. No General feels quite equal to handling such masses of soldiers, the mere provisioning of whom will overtax great departments; and no ruling person, unless slightly mad with ambition, will be inclined to give the signal for a war in which the flower of a generation must perish, and after which the victor will be compelled, by the opinion of those who have lost their sons, to be immoderate in his demands for compensation. The unexampled weight of the stakes will decidedly make for peace, and so far the warmth of the new alliance is not to be regretted, more especially as it has induced M. Carnot, who has hitherto been peaceful, to allow himself to be put forward for re-election to the Presidency.

Nevertheless the *Economist* believes that the chances of a prolonged peace are very precarious, in view of "the uncertain temper of France, always liable to rise to blood-heat under provocations as slight as the visit of the Prince of Naples to Metz in the suite of the Emperor William—a temper which will not be softened by impatience." As to the Russian disposition to war, the *Economist* says: "All depends in practice upon the Czar, who is peaceful; but then, that dependence on the will of one man whose character is only half known and who may be subject to influences of which no-one in Europe can predict the force, should limit our confidence in the solidity of what is just now declared to be the European peace. It is not a peace so much as an armed truce, which may be short or protracted according to events which the most far-sighted statesmen do not pretend to foresee." In its second article, the *Economist* shows that the total currency, excluding nickel and bronze coins, held in the U.S. outside the Treasury was £336,112,000, of which the amount that the Treasury held itself bound to pay in gold on demand was £96,500,000,

while the gold reserve was down to a little under £17,000,000. It was probable that some drafts would have to be made upon the European stocks of gold. The *Economist* next shows how the silver market has been sustained by the large shipments to India and China, the exports for the quarter ending the 30th of September having been:

	India.	China.
1893	£1,890,400	£950,000
1892	£2,464,000	£12,000
1891	£869,500	£59,000

Still, the *Economist* holds that "the probability is that the market supply of the metal will tend to become excessive. That means, of course, a fall in price, but in view of . . . the strength of the absorption of the East, and of the fact that lower prices will check production, it looks as if a comparatively moderate fall would suffice to bring about an equation between supply and demand. No-one, however, can venture to speak with any confidence as to the future of the market."

In its opening article on "The Matabele War," the *Saturday Review* shows itself well satisfied with what the Chartered Company has done, but shows also that it has been effectively assisted by the co-operation of an Imperial force. The last paragraph of the article is:—

To conclude, then, we congratulate the Company on the good work it has done, and are quite ready to back it in all reasonable exertions of its franchises and privileges. It has shown that it can keep its head by fighting, which is the first thing needful; and it must now show that it can keep its head in another way. We think government by Chartered Company in such cases a convenient scheme enough, and one excellently suited, if not to counsels of perfection, to the strength of the English character and the weakness of English statesmen—our rulers being too often such *fainéants* and faddists-fearers that they would do nothing if left to themselves. Intelligent Imperial supervision in matters which certainly touch the rights and welfare of quasi-independent native States, and which, not improbably, may touch the rights or the pretensions of European Powers, is, however, an absolute *sine qua non*. We cannot allow the Cape Colony, which has no more rights in the matter than are conveyed by mere (and that rather distant) propinquity, to dictate; we cannot allow Mr. Rhodes's private interests to require or receive "deference." The Empire must be governed by the Imperial Government; and if the Imperial Government seems likely to make mistakes, we in England must do our best to prevent it.

The second article, headed "A New Idea," is a notice of an apparently remarkable novel, *Diana Tempest*, by Miss Cholmondeley, but unfortunately whatever the novel may be, the article is unintelligible, unless one has read the book, which is a mistake. In its article on "The Silver Bill," the *Saturday* points out that "the final vote on the Sherman Act; Repeal Bill by the United States Senate is not only a success for sound financial principles. It is a great personal victory for Mr. Cleveland." In discussing the *Victoria Minutes* the *Saturday* infers that Capt. Johnstone of the *Camperdown* is unfairly, and Captain Bourke of the *Victoria* too leniently, dealt with.

In reference to the *Victoria Minutes*, the *Spectator* says in a Note:—

The Lords of the Admiralty issued, on Wednesday, a series of papers on the sinking of the *Victoria* by the *Camperdown*, of which one is a Minute by my Lords on the proceedings of the court-martial, another is a Minute on the closing of the watertight doors, and a third is a report by Mr. W. H. White, C.B., Assistant-Controller and Director of Naval Construction, on the causes of the capsizing of the *Victoria*. We do not think that the country is likely to be satisfied with the evidence as to the closing of the watertight compartments. It is almost impossible to work the ships in the stifling atmosphere which this closing produces, and therefore the closure is always put off to the very last

moment, and usually comes too late. The controversy between the Admiralty and Sir E. J. Reed as to the construction of those vessels and the fatal effects of ramming, whether to the rammer or the rammed, is too technical for the judgment of any but experts. But one thing is satisfactory; my Lords, though they found fault with both Rear-Admiral Markham and Captain Johnstone of the *Camperdown*, for not taking prompter measures to prevent a collision, gave no sort of countenance to the cry which was raised that Admiral Tryon's orders should have been disobeyed. That suggestion was mischievous, and would have cost the Navy its discipline, and probably its very existence as a consequence of its loss of discipline.

The *Spectator* concludes an article on "Mr. Campbell-Bannerman's Confession" by saying: "Compromise between the Unionists' policy and the Irish Home Rule policy is simply impossible. Either we must satisfy the Irish that they can't have what they want, and will never gain it, or we must give them frankly a Colonial government. The former course is the only one for Unionists; the latter means repeal of the Union, with all its dangers." There is a very interesting article on "Young Animals at the Zoo."

The Duke of Portland, a man more eminent for his wealth than anything else, has amused people by declaring recently at Troon that "attacks upon the Church of Scotland are regarded with disfavour by the Duchess and myself." On this the poet of *Truth* writes:—

O Church-disestablishers, cease
Your attacks on the Kirk's domination!
O pestilent Radicals, peace!
Enough of your low agitation!
Accused be every one who
This topic prohibited touches,
For such the disfavour will rue
Of their Graces the Duke and the Duchess!
It is true the State Kirk has been found
A bone of persistent dissension;
That Scotchmen on all sides abound
Who yearn for an Act's intervention;
Nay, even the Kirk night—who knows?—
Be glad to throw down its State crutches,
But hush!—who would dare to oppose
Their Graces the Duke and the Duchess?

All Scotland, of course, will be dumb,
Disestablishment lose its sweet savour;
Dr. Cameron also succumb
At this hint of the Ducal disfavour.
'Gainst most things he's ready to fight,
But this altogether too much is—
To do e'en the slightest despite
To the wish of a Duke and a Duchess!

Or perhaps—for there's something in man
That resent all attempts at dictation—
The Duke's and the Duchess's ban
Will but hasten the wished consummation.
And the Church up in Scotland will cease
To be held in the State's choking clutches,
All the sooner because its release
Is opposed by the Duke and the Duchess!

Holloway's Pills and Ointment.—Influenza, Coughs and Colds.—In diseases of the throat and chest, so prevalent in our changeable climate, nothing so speedily relieves, or so certainly cures, as these inestimable remedies. These disorders are too often neglected at their commencement, or are injudiciously treated, resulting in either case in disastrous consequences. Whatever the condition of the patient, Holloway's remedies will restore, if recovery be possible; they will retard the alarming symptoms till the blood is purified and nature consummates the cure, gradually restoring strength and vital nervous power. By persevering in the use of Holloway's preparations, tone is conferred on the stomach and frame generally. Thousands of persons have testified that by the use of these remedies alone they have been restored to health after every other means had failed.

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NOTICES OF BOOKS, ETC.

The Messenger, December, 1893. Shanghai: The American Presbyterian Mission Press.

The December number opens with an article on "Religious Unity" by the Rev. G. T. Candlin. This was one of the extra papers read before the science section of the Chicago Parliament of Religions, and appropriately opens with an incidental justification for convening the Parliament, followed by a terse epitome and as succinct a repudiation of the various constructions of the motives and purposes of the promoters of the Parliament of Religions. Mr. Candlin says that whilst no Christian, simply by virtue of the fact that he is a Christian, can admit that Christianity is only equal to other religions, on the other hand no member of the other historic religions of the world can admit that it is equal to his own faith. His contention is that they may be compared, a process which usually supposes inequality, and that what already has been done for purely historic purposes by a vast body of literature issued during the past thirty years, may also and indeed must be done for religious purposes. "What we do need to assume is," says Mr. Candlin, "not that all religions, or any two religions are equal, but that the religious nature in man is the same all the world over and is perennial, that theology is a progressive science, that religious knowledge, like all other knowledge, will 'grow from more to more,' and that the divine purpose unfolding with the ages to 'gather together in one all things in Christ' will never fail." Speaking of a religion being a growth, as opposed to "man-made," Mr. Candlin says: "They were not inaugurated by a board of directors, or formed like a steam-ship company, or chartered by Act of Parliament like an East India Corporation, they came into being by the same divine law of growth which has lifted man above the *amœba*, they are the fruit and flowerage, in differing soils, but beneath the same heavens, of that living spiritual organism, the human heart. Corruption has touched them all; the fogs of superstition, against which they struggle, from which none are free, hang heavy over many of them, but in their first origin they were essentially good, they were born in the light of the morning. Whoever will be at the trouble to study their history and judge them by their own acknowledged standards as we judge our own religion by its own acknowledged standards, Brahmanism by its Vedas, Buddhism by its Pitakas, Mohammedanism by its Koran, Taoism by its Tao Tê Ching and Kan Ying P'ien, and Confucianism by its Analects, its Odes, and its History, as well as Christianity by the New Testament (always supposing it is a person of open mind), may be sure not that there is some good in them, some stray strands of truth woven as a foreign element into their texture, a sugary coat on the pill, a luscious bait on the hook, but that their main purpose and drift, having regard to local circumstances, social conditions, and prevailing evils, was a lift toward a better and a freer life."

We feel tempted to quote further from Mr. Candlin's paper, especially after reading the poetical passage on page 178, in which he speaks of the launching of a religion upon the world as the miracle of miracles; but to lift sentences away from their context is unfair, whilst to enter on a discussion of the subject with present limitations is inadvisable. The paper is highly suggestive and worthy a wide perusal.

Under the title of "The Legal Aspects of Protestant Missions," a report is given of a meeting of the Shanghai Missionary Association, at which Dr. Boone read a paper on "What should be the attitude of the missionary body in China with regard to riots, loss of property, personal injury, or

murder of one or more of their number?" The most apparent result was the presentation of a resolution to the effect that the Association "shall elect one member of each missionary society or Bible society belonging to the Association as a member of a committee, to be called the Advisory Committee. That this Committee may be consulted and may give advice only as to the advisability of opening new stations for work in any dangerous locality and also as to the best methods of starting such work. That this committee may advise and assist parties who have sustained injury in any riot, and aid them in getting a satisfactory settlement of their difficulties in any way that may be deemed best." We trust this good resolution will be carried through, and that ultimately from this and other local Advisory Committees which may be appointed, there may be elected a general Advisory Board for all China.

We are glad to note that "future articles in the *Messenger* will give accurate information on legal points, in order that readers may know exactly what dangers beset the path of the missionary when he takes up his abode in localities where he is surrounded by a population partly friendly but also partly hostile."

In "Conditional Immortality" we have an article full of thought for thoughtful persons; the continuation of Mr. Stanley P. Smith's Diary gives details of the ups and downs of inland travelling, the beauties of some portions of inland China, and some of the cheering results of work in the interior. In notes and comments, reviews, helps to Scripture study, etc., we have proof of the editor's versatility and broad and numerous sympathies. "The Diet of the Elderly," and the concluding portion of Dr. Baedeker's lecture afford food for thought; but one of the most interesting and seasonable items is Mrs. Muirhead's charming story, "No News of *The Dolphin*," which, in common with all the productions of this gifted authoress, will be enjoyed by young and old.

Outputs.

CHINKIANG.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

FAMINE REFUGEES.

A drought which has become chronic is now afflicting this part of the country of calamities. At the same time, large numbers of "famine fliers," men, women and children, are coming down from the inundated parts of the north. Several hundred of these poor creatures passed yesterday. Most of them were thinly clad and half starved; many little children with bare feet and legs were crying with the cold. I noticed one noble young fellow carrying his mother on his back. Evidence pointed to the fact that he had brought her many miles during many weary days. Both were nearly famished. However much we may pity these refugees, they are nevertheless a menace to the country as they attack the fields of the well-to-do like swarms of locusts. This brings out the farmers who vociferously insist on the rights of the individual.

CANAL WORK.

The native officials seem to be in earnest about repairing the canal between this and Laoyang. Large numbers of soldiers have been at work for some time removing the silt that has accumulated in the lapse of time.

FIRES.

The number of fires increases with the cold weather, due mostly to benumbed carelessness, kerosene, more oxygen and high winds. The Chinese explanation is that the Pearly Emperor at the beginning of the year instructs the God of Fire to destroy so many houses. The latter being

tender-hearted, refrains from this unfeeling task until the close of the year when the account is to be rendered. He then hurriedly finishes the job. This being the end of the year, the God of Fire is checking off his accounts, hence the numerous conflagrations. A very high authority has long ago remarked the similarity between gods and god-makers.

A POEM.

The poem below made a former generation smile. The habits of the American opossum are almost unknown to Englishmen and the bit of natural history contained in the piece is worth the trouble of printing it. Rules of Chinese grammar applied to the Latin will elucidate the text. The poem is called

THE POSSUM HUNT.

The nox was lit by lux of Luna,
And 'twas a nox most opportuna
To catch a possum or a coona.
For nix was scattered o'er this mundue,
A shallow nix and not profundus.
On sic a nox with canis unus
Two boys went out to hunt for coonus.
Unus canis duo puer,
Nunquam braver, nunquam truer;
Quam hoc trio unquam fuit,
If there was, I never knew it.
The corpus of this bonus canis
Was full as long as octo span is;
But brevior legs had canis never
Quam had hic dog; et bonus clever.
Some used to say in stultum jocum
Quod a field was too small locum
For sic a dog to make a turnus
Circum self from stem to sternus.
This bonus dog had one bad habit
Amabat much to tree a rabbit,
Amabat plus to chase a rattus,
Amabat bene to tree a cattus.
But on this nixy moonlight night,
This old canis did just right.
Nunquam treed a starving rattus,
Nunquam chased a pauper cattus,
But ecurrit on intentus,
On the track and on the scentus,
Till he treed a possum strongum
In a hollow trunkum longum.
Loud he barked in horrid bellum,
Seemed on terra venit pellum,
Quickly ran the duo puer
Mors of possum to secure.
Quam venerit one began
To chip away like quisque man.
Soon he hit it all kerchunkum.
Combat deepens; on ye braves!
Canis, pueri et staves.
As his powers non longus tarry
Possum potest non pugnare.
On the mix his corpus lieth,
Down to Hades spirit fieth;
Joyful pueri canis bonus,
Think him dead as any stonus.
Now they seek their pater's domo,
Feeling proud as any homo,
Knowing certe they will blossom
Into heroes, when, with possum,
They arrive, narrabunt story
Plenis blond et plenior glory.
Pompey, David, Samson, Caesar,
Cyrus, Blackhawk, Shalmaneser,
Tell me where est now the gloria.
Where the honours of Victoria?
Quum ad domum narrant story,
Plenis sanguine, tragic, gory.
Pater praiseth, likewise mater,
Wonders greatly younger frater,
Possum leave they on the mundus
Go themselves to sleep profundus
Somniunt possums slain in battle,
Strong as Ursus, large as cattle.
When nox gives way to lux of morning,
Albam terram much adorning,
Up they jump to see the varmen
Of the which this is the Carmen.
Lo! possum est resurrectum,
Ecce pueri dejectum.
No r-linquit track behind him
Et the pueri never find him.
Cruel possum! bestia vilis,
How the pueros thou beguilest,

Go ad Orcum Shalmaneser
Take your laurels cum the honour
Since ista possum is a goner.

18th December.

HANGCHOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

WEATHER AND CROPS.

The long drought, continued now for more than nine weeks, is causing a great deal of inconvenience and probably is the cause of many of the diseases which are prevalent at this time. There is a general desire for a good rain. The crops of the autumn have been very good and the staff of life is quite cheap, the best quality of rice selling for \$3 a picul, which was the price of the most inferior quality a year ago. But the farmers, chronic grumblers, now complain of the low prices they receive for their products.

THEIR LITTLE JOKES.

The country people are now bringing in their tribute rice to the official granaries. These granaries, in this section of country, have the two characters 便民, "for the convenience of the people," and the people say "the officials are now collecting their accounts." The people seem to be as facetious as the officials. The people sometimes throw up to us the burning of the cotton mills in Shanghai, and ask why the foreigners did not put out the fire. A few days ago, a man replied to a missionary by saying, "You here are exhorting me to 'repair the heart'; you had better repair that cotton mill in Shanghai."

SILVER.

We are now feeling the influence of the depreciation in silver, as kerosene oil, and articles from foreign countries in general, are held at prices considerably higher than a few weeks or months ago.

THE UNITED TWINS.

A strange phenomenon is now on exhibition at this place. I had noticed posters along the streets stating that twins connected by a ligament were to be seen at a certain place, for the fee of one hundred cash a head. A few days ago, while crossing the lake, my boatman asked me if he should go by a certain houseboat (Chinese) and let me see the twins. We were then close to the boat which was anchored in the lake not far from the landing, which is a popular resort for pleasure seekers. The boat is used to protect the show from too great a crowd. People on the boat invited me to come and see the wonder, and a real wonder it was. A second edition of the Siamese twins, two nice-looking little boys about six years old, bound together by a ligament of flesh near the middle of their sides. They are as much alike in appearance and as near equal in size as it is possible to be. They say that they are from the Kiangsi province and mother and father are with them. They have visited Shanghai, Soochow, Kiahing, and Japan and other places, and everywhere they have taken in a good sum of money. They will go to a private dwelling on exhibition for four dollars.

A YOUNG SAMSON.

The military examination came off some time ago, and the names of the successful candidates have been put on the bulletin board. There were about 900 candidates, of whom 63 obtained the degree of promoted men. They are tried in archery, lifting, sword and spear exercise, etc., also in writing. The senior wrangler was a young man only twenty-two years of age, from Kinhua. His particular success was in lifting, and his strength is estimated at 800 catties, though really, they say it is only 600 catties. This is tested by lifting a square stone of 300 catties weight, as high as his breast. This man not only

lifted it to that height, but gave it a little toss up and caught it as it came down. The Governor was astonished and asked him to repeat the feat. The young man, supposing that he was suspected of having some secret helps, threw off his coat, exposing his bare body, and repeated the feat to the entire satisfaction of the judges. Though in archery and other practices his skill was not conspicuous, he was awarded the first place on the list of the successful candidates, and the Governor did him the honour of asking who had been his teacher and trainer. He replied that it was his father, who was himself a military officer and had served at Ningpo and elsewhere.

13th December.

HANKOW.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE SUNGPU CASE

was settled yesterday at a big feast in the Taotai's *yanmen* at which were present the Hankow Taotai, Yu Taotai, who has had the management of the case of late, Tsai Taotai, the Viceroy's Secretary, and Consul-General Bock. The Consul-General declines to state at present the terms on which the settlement has been effected, but his Chinese *confères* are by no means so reticent, and they give the following as the particulars. I believe they will be found to be quite accurate, with the exception of the amount of money mentioned, which will probably be found to be considerably in excess of the sum actually promised to the Consul-General, to admit of the usual squeeze margin.

TERMS OF SETTLEMENT.

1.—Two heads, Li Kao-pa's and the pedlar's. On this point the Consul-General ultimately said he would not insist, as he considered it the duty of the native authorities to decide the punishment question according to the laws. Whatever they did in this connection must be done on their own responsibility. The Taotais said they would certainly take off two heads.

2.—Ten persons to be banished. This also was a Chinese offer, but as five of these were to be the refugees whom the Consul-General would not produce for this purpose—they were *en route* to Peking—it was agreed the authorities would not banish their five either. As the persons in question were "Nine Eggs" and Co., it was just as well to arrange it so.

3.—An indemnity to be paid of Tls. 40,000. If we read dollars for taels here we will probably be nearer the actual amount.

4.—The Machêng *hsien* to be removed from that city, but his button not to be dealt with. As it happens, his three years of office were up when the riot took place, and his successor appointed, so this means nothing, but it helps to make a show.

5.—No attempt shall be made to re-establish the mission at Sungpu for a year, when the question may be re-opened and if circumstances are favourable it may be done then. This means as much as the last article and no more, as the Viceroy has said there will never be a mission in that region while he lives.

IN MR. BOCK'S FAVOUR.

There is this much, however, to be said in Mr. Bock's favour; he has fought a brave battle for nearly three weeks with an old man who won't budge an inch for a Consul-General, not even with all the Ministers and the Tsungli Yamén at his back. He did not give in without a good fight this time.

APPEALING TO PEKING.

The case is now settled as far as Sweden acting through her representative is concerned, and the ground is now clear for other action. While Sweden blocked the way it was impossible for outside agencies to do much in it without interfering, but now

if successful the House will have no power to deny him a seat—or temporary obscurity. The Representatives have won the day: just won it, for a vote of expulsion has to be carried by a vote of more than two-thirds of the members present. What is the cost of their triumph? The discrediting of the House. For it is not to be denied that throughout this ugly affair it has been swayed by feeling and passing prejudice. Cool judgment and reason have been conspicuous by their absence. There has not been, so far as the public can discern, a semblance of impartial enquiry. The man has been condemned beforehand and unheard, and his guilt, not his innocence, has been assumed right along. The favourite of a year ago is the object of execration and denunciation to-day, and the whole case is more suggestive of a Parliament of unfledged schoolboys than of sober, experienced men. In its wild pursuit of an unpopular member the House has cast reason and dignity to the winds, and whether it is right or wrong in refusing to tolerate Mr. Hoshi's presence, it has established a precedent which augurs ill for the future of representative institutions in the country.

THE LATEST IN THE "CHISHIMA-RAVENNA" AFFAIR.

The case against the P. & O. S. N. Co., for the recovery of \$124,000, compensation claimed by one Tsune Kijima and 115 others, relatives of men lost in the *Chishima Kan*, came on at Yokohama in H.B.M.'s Court for Japan on Monday last. Mr. Walford appeared for the plaintiffs; Mr. Lowder for the defendant company. Mr. Lowder applied under the 2nd and 3rd paragraphs of Rule of Procedure No. 39 for the dismissal of the suit. The case was heard by Judge Mowat, who yesterday morning delivered judgment as follows, according to the Yokohama evening papers:—

This is an application by the defendants, under the second, and part of the third paragraphs of our Rule of Procedure 39, to dismiss the petition in the suit. The whole Rule reads as follows:—

Rule 9th.—"In case a petition states two or more distinct causes of suit by and against the same parties, and in the same rights, the Court may either before or at the hearing, if it appears inexpedient to try the different causes of suit together, order that different records be made up, and make such Order as to costs as justice may require.

"In case a petition states two or more distinct causes of suit, but not by and against the same parties, or by and against the same parties but not in the same rights, the petition may on the application of any defendant be dismissed.

"In case such application is made within the time for answer the petition may be dismissed with substantial costs to be paid by the plaintiff to the defendant making the application; but in case the application is not made within the time for answer, the petition when the defect is brought to the notice of the Court may be dismissed without Costs, or on payment of Court fees only, as to the Court seems just."

It is admitted by Counsel for the plaintiffs, that in the petition there are as many as sixty-two distinct causes of suit brought by as many different plaintiffs, or rather groups of plaintiffs, for the actual number of individual plaintiffs was stated by defendants' Counsel to be 116. But it is contended, in the first place, on behalf of the plaintiffs, that the Court has a discretion in the matter, and that it is not bound to dismiss the petition on the defendants' application. The defendants, on the other hand, contend that it is a matter of right and not of discretion, and in support of their view of the construction to be put on the word "may" in such a provision, they refer to the case of *Julius v. The Bishop of Oxford* (L.R., 5, Appeal Cases. p. 214). Apart even from that case, it seems to me impossible to hold, on the true construction of the Rule, that the Court has any discretion at all in the matter. When the 1st and 2nd paragraphs are read together, it is seen

that there is a sharp distinction drawn between petitions stating distinct causes of suit by the same parties, and petitions stating distinct causes of suit not by the same parties. Petitions of the former class are permitted, but even then subject to the Court directing in any given case that different records shall be made up if it should appear inexpedient to try the different causes of suit together. There is no such provision as to the petitions of the other class, viz: those stating distinct causes of suit not by the same parties—which, are, it seems to me, treated as so "defective" that the Court is not permitted to deal with them in any way except by dismissal—dismissal on certain terms if the defendant applies before answer; and if not, then on one or other of the terms specified "as to the Court seems just." But it is dismissal in any case. The first ground on which the plaintiffs rely therefore fails.

It is next contended on their behalf that the petition is allowable under the provisions of Order XVI, Rule I, of the Judicature Act and is consequently by force of a decision in the Supreme Court at Shanghai in the case of *Scott v. Forrester*, allowable here.

It appears to me unnecessary to say anything as to *Scott v. Forrester*. The construction of the rule under the Judicature Act on which the plaintiffs rely has been several times before the Courts in England, and the Judges have not always been in accord as to its meaning. The latest case upon it is that of *Sandes v. Wildsmith* (L. R., 1 Q. B. D., 1893, p. 771) tried in May last, to which defendant's Counsel referred me. There Mr. Justice Wills said: "The meaning of the rule is, that where it is doubtful in whom a right sought to be enforced is vested, it is permissible to put in all possible claimants, but it does not mean that, where there are two rights which are essentially different from each other, and there is no doubt as to the person in whom each of those rights is vested, it is permissible to roll two actions into one;" and Mr. Justice Lawrence concurred. That being the latest decision in England as to what the Rule means and what it does not mean, I must hold that such an action as the present one is not permissible under the Judicature Act. It plainly is not permissible under our own Rules. I therefore grant the application. Costs must follow the event.

NEWS IN BRIEF.

Diphtheria is prevalent in several places in the East just now. News of its decrease at home comes to hand with reports of its existence at Hongkong, Shanghai, etc. There have been one or two cases here too.—Captain Miyaji Sataro, who was in charge of the *Yushinogawa Maru* when she ran down the *Denbighshire* in this harbour a few weeks since, has had his certificate suspended for five months.—The *Dzichi Taiko Maru*, a steamer which has been running between Osaka and Nagasaki, struck a rock off Yokokajima, Hizen, early on the 9th inst., and there is apparently but scant likelihood of saving her. No lives were lost.—Another small steamer that has just come to grief is the *Daini Koumyu Maru* which struck a shoal and capsized in the current. Nine passengers, including three women, were drowned. There were upwards of 80 on board at the time. Luckily there were several fishing boats near by, and these rendered effective assistance.—The Kagoshima Prefectural Assembly was suspended by the Governor of the *ken* on the 13th instant. A disagreement over the expenditure for police and engineering works is said to be the cause.

Kobe, 14th December.

NANKING.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE IMPERIAL NAVAL ACADEMY.

Dr. John Fryer, of Shanghai, has been in the city for ten days past, conducting the annual examinations at the Imperial Naval Academy. The final session, held yesterday afternoon, was attended by the Viceroy, who went to the Academy in great state, escorted by a large body of officials, soldiers, and servants. The people thronged the streets along the line of march, eager to catch a glimpse of their ruler. He has a rather pleasant face, one that indicates strength of character, mingled with kindness of disposition. His looks belie the reports of his ill-health. He seems good for many more long years of service. Dr. Fryer is accompanied on his visit here by his son, who has recently come out from the United States.

VISITORS.

H.M.S. *Porpoise* having Consul Carles of Chinkiang on board spent several days here last week. Other visitors have been the Rev. D. N. Lyon and the Rev. W. M. Crozier, of Soochow, who came up across country from that city.

EDUCATIONAL ASSOCIATION.

Last Thursday, 7th December, was the day set apart by the Educational Association of China as a day of special prayer for schools and colleges. Its observance here was marked by a very impressive service held in the morning at the Presbyterian Church, which was attended by the pupils and teachers of all the various mission schools in the city. This service was conducted by the Rev. F. S. Meigs of the Christian Mission. Another service, in English, was held in the afternoon by the missionaries, and conducted by the Rev. John C. Ferguson.

AN ACCIDENT.

Friends of the Rev. D. W. Nichols will be pained to learn of a serious accident to his youngest child, a little boy, who fell off a chair last Saturday through a window-pane, cutting his face very badly. Dr. Beebe was at once sent for and gave the little fellow proper attention.

12th December.

NANKING UNIVERSITY.

On Friday last the members of the foreign community were invited to inspect the new buildings of the Nanking University, just completed. These are two large two-storied structures, most comfortably fitted up, the one for a dormitory, the other for the use of the preparatory school. The dormitory is called after the donor "Collins Hall," is 110 feet long by 33 feet wide, and contains some thirty odd sleeping rooms, a large dining hall, kitchen, bath-house and every appointment necessary for the comfort of the students. The other building is 68 feet long by 50 feet wide and contains six recitation rooms and a large chapel. These new halls together with those already erected make a very imposing appearance and are well set off by the large campus surrounding them, which measures some seven and a half acres in extent. The whole plant, including apparatus, cost \$20,000 U.S. The principal building, known as "Fowler Biblical School" was completed two years ago. It has three stories and a basement and is furnished with a clock-tower which is visible at a considerable distance across the city. It is proposed before long to supply this with an illuminated clock which will let these slow-going people know the time of day. This building was the gift of Mrs. Adeline Smith of Chicago, the same lady who established the hospital and the girls' school in connection with the Methodist Mission in this city. The most beautiful structure on the grounds is the "Sleeper Memorial Chapel," built some three years ago by Mrs. Sleeper Davis of Boston, in memory of her father.

COURSE OF STUDY.

The University is under the direction of the American Methodist Episcopal Church and was opened five years ago. The Rev. John C. Ferguson is President. At present there are eighty pupils enrolled. The faculty comprises three foreign and seven native teachers. The course of study embraces three years in the Primary Department, three in the Preparatory School, and four in the College. The study of English is required during the last three years of the course, but pupils in lower grades are permitted to study it, if they wish. At present there are twenty-five students learning English. The most advanced class is just completing the first year in the College.

THE RECEPTION.

The reception last Friday afternoon was given under the auspices of the foreign teachers and was a most enjoyable affair. Tea was served in the large dining-hall and at seven o'clock we all adjourned to the chapel to be entertained by a stereopticon lecture on the Chicago Columbian Exposition given by Dr. John Fryer. The views of the buildings, grounds, and exhibits were very fine and Dr. Fryer's description was most interesting to all who were present as was testified by a unanimous and hearty vote of thanks at the close of the lecture.

18th December.

NOTES FROM THE SOUTH.

(FROM OUR OWN CORRESPONDENT.)

THE REGATTA.

The chief event of a very dull week has been the occurrence of the annual regatta, which commenced yesterday, and will be concluded this evening. The weather was most favourable on both days for the occasion, it being for the most part cloudy, with smooth water. Yesterday, too, there was a gentle breeze, which just suited the sailors, but to-day there is less wind. The events were well contested, and the race for the Chairman's Cup yesterday, from which R. F. Lammert's boat emerged the victor, produced some little excitement. The Garrison Cup was won with great ease by "The Boys," so-called because they are colonial-bred youths, the third place being secured by a crew from the U.S.S. *Concord*. The last of the four-oared races, rowed in the dusk, was undecided owing to a foul. The Hong race for St. Patrick's Cup (for pair oars) was won by Lane, Crawford & Co. by four lengths. The *Concord*'s crew pulled off the race for men-of-war's cutters, winning with great ease, greatly to their own credit and not much to that of their competitors, two boats from the *Victor Emmanuel*. The great event for to-day will be the International, for which the German and English crews are most fancied, with the balance of opinion in favour of the former.

ARRIVAL OF VICE-ADMIRAL FREMANTLE.

The despatch vessel *Alacrity*, bearing the flag of Vice-Admiral Sir E. Fremantle, arrived here this morning from Shanghai, via the coast ports. There was a great expenditure of powder as the yacht took up her usual berth. The Admiral is just in time for the second day of the regatta.

THE GOVERNMENT AND EXCHANGE.

The most interesting subject which cropped up at the meeting of the Legislative Council, held on the 13th inst., was that of the value of the dollar. The government, in their estimates for 1894, had calculated the interest payable on the public debt at the rate of 2s. 6d. The senior unofficial member took exception to this calculation, because, though the rate estimated on was a convenient one, it was purely problematic, and he did not think it was the right course to pursue. The current rate, 2s. 2½d., would be a safer basis on which to calculate, as exchange might go down to 2s. The Colonial Secretary urged that it was only an estimate, and that they would

not have to pay a dollar the more if the estimate proved to be too high. This is true enough, but it would certainly be more satisfactory at the end of the year to find that the estimate had been too low instead of having to make further provision in consequence of having underestimated exchange. It was, however, a change to find Mr. Chater, formerly the champion optimist in the colony, assuming so pessimistic a tone. It would seem, however, that this has become part of the business of the Opposition, possibly with a view to check the too sanguine spirits of the officials.

THE MILITARY CONTRIBUTION.

Another point, on which the unofficial members dwell with some insistence, was the growing burden of the military contribution. This contribution, which is fixed at £40,000, was in itself, considering the size of the garrison and the revenue of the colony, not unreasonable when the dollar was worth 3s. 9d. or so, but it becomes quite another story with exchange at 2s. 4d. It is a great pity the military contribution could not, when it was raised from £20,000, have been fixed at a sum in dollars, but there seems no likelihood of the War Office consenting to any arrangement of the kind now. Mr. O'Brien held out no hope, and said that an attempt of that kind had been made already and failed, Ceylon having vainly sought to get payment of its contribution accepted in rupees. That being the case, it would be fruitless to approach the home government on the subject. Our best hope, therefore, is that exchange has nearly touched bottom, and may perhaps recover somewhat in the course of next year. He would be a bold man, however, who would attempt to predict the rate of exchange this time next year.

THE FIRE EPIDEMIC.

There have been several more fires in the city, though fortunately none of them assumed serious dimensions. The first, which occurred on the morning of the 9th inst. destroyed portions of Nos. 9, 11, and 13 Bonham Strand; the second, which broke out in No. 240, Queen's Road West on the morning of the 10th, gutted the two upper floors of the house; and the third, which happened on the evening of the 13th, at No. 99, Praya West, was soon extinguished, the chief damage accruing from the water which was liberally turned upon the flames. All the buildings were insured in home offices.

THE DOUBLE MURDER IN THE HARBOUR.

The blacksmith named Chan Lo, charged in connection with the recent double murder in the harbour, in which a woman and her daughter were thrown out of a sampan by some passengers, of whom he is alleged to be one, was on the 8th inst. committed by the Police Magistrate to take his trial at the next criminal sessions.

THE STATE OF THE STOCK MARKET.

The prices of stocks keep up very fairly, though the demand has almost died away, the fact being that values are better established. Quotations for some stocks have even advanced. Indo-Chinas, for instance, have recovered from 60 per cent. dis. to 50 per cent. dis., Tramways have risen to \$65, and China Sugars have advanced to \$164, all with buyers. Freight rates have improved and it is expected Indo-Chinas will show an improvement on the year's working, possibly a dividend; Tramways are going to pay 4 per cent. for the year; and it is known that Sugars have earned sufficient to pay 10 per cent. as a final dividend, making 18 per cent. for the year.

THE NEW SUGAR HOUSE AT EAST POINT.

With reference to the latter company, its prospects are very good apart from the large earnings of the closing year. The Chinese market grows yearly, and the promised reduction of the tariff in the

United States will give Hongkong refined sugar a better chance there. The extension of the works at East Point is now practically completed, and the new sugar house will be in working order early next year. It combines all the latest improvements and will enable the company to greatly increase their output, with a very small addition to the working expenses. There is a great future for this industry in Hongkong, and its success will surely lead to the establishment of other industries in the colony.

A RECORD PASSAGE.

The weather has continued heavy in the China Sea, and vessels coming up from Singapore still make long passages, but I think, so far, the Blue Funnel steamer *Palawan* has broken the record. She left Singapore on the afternoon of the 2nd instant, and steamed proudly into port on the 13th inst.

THE MAIL-BAG ROBBERY.

No doubt your readers have heard something of the robbery of a bag of letters belonging to the O. & O. steamer *Gaelic*'s last mail for San Francisco. This bag was, it is believed, stolen in Hongkong. Some of it has just come to hand from Amoy, where a municipal policeman picked up a parcel of letters in the settlement on Sunday the 10th inst. These letters had all been opened, and, presumably, examined. Among them was a large linen-covered envelope from Messrs. Siemssen & Co. Possibly this parcel of letters was sent on to Amoy to put the authorities off the scent. It is to be hoped that some clue to the miscreants who perpetrated the robbery may be obtained.

Hongkong, 15th December.

Peking Gazettes.

ABSTRACT OF PEKING GAZETTE.

Special ly translated for the North-China (Herald.)

15th October.

IMPERIAL DECREE.

(1) A decree appointing a number of officials to the metropolitan and provincial administrations.

(2) With reference to the memorial of the Board of Rites approving of the suggestion of the Governor of Chékiang, Sung Chün, that the Chékiang octogenarians, Sün Tsiang-ming of Wenchow, ex-Chancellor of the Imperial Academy of Learning (Hanlin Yuan), should be allowed to proceed a second time to the *Lich Ming* Banquet, given at the provincial capital of Hangchow to the newly-graduated *Chün* of Chékiang, we further command that in addition to this privilege the said Sün Tsiang-ming be given the distinction of the honorary rank of the third grade as a special Act of Grace from us in recognition of the great age he has arrived at.

(3) Na Yen-t'u, Prince of the Khalka Mongols (1st Order), and Tsai Ch'i, Prince of the 3rd Order are hereby appointed Grand Chamberlains or Ministers of the Presence.

(4) Shou Ying is appointed Senior Vice-President and K'e Mên-t'ai Junior Vice-President of the Board of Civil Appointments, and of War, respectively. Feng Ming and Chih Yen are appointed Senior Vice-Presidents of the Board of Works and the Mongolian Superintendency, respectively. Ying Nien is appointed acting Junior Vice-President of the Board of Works and Commissioner of the Coinage Department.

(5) Na Yen-t'u, Prince of the Khalka Mongols, is also appointed Captain-General of the Mongolian Bordered White Banner.

(6) Sung Kuei is transferred to the Presidency of the Board of Punishments vice Kuei Heng, deceased, and Huai T'a-pu

is appointed President of the Board of Works. Hsi Ching is appointed Senior President of the Court of Censors.

THE COURT.

His Majesty gave audience this morning in the Grand Council Chamber to the Grand Secretary Fu K'un, to Ho Chao-shan and Lin Shao-nien. Prince Tsai Lien (3rd Order) also had a personal audience of His Majesty and reported on the result of his inspection of the artillery practice at Lukou Bridge. The Prince of Li (1st Order) also reported personally to His Majesty the result of the recent autumn review of the Peking Field Force.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

His Majesty has appointed K'eng Ying-pu to report on the repairs made to the Left Middle gates of the Palace. W'eng T'ung-ho, President of the Board of Revenue, and his colleagues reported in a memorial the result of the recent *ch'ien* examinations. Ho Chao-shan, prefect of Kuangsi, gave thanks for his recent appointment. The Dukes of P'eh and Chi having completed their leave of absence, reported their return to Court duties.

No other news of interest.

16th October.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Ch'ung Li is appointed Senior and Ch'ang Lin Junior Lieutenant-Generals of the Peking Gendarmerie.

(2) Ch'ung Li is also appointed Acting Deputy Captain-General of the Mongolian Yellow Banner.

(3) Yü T'ä is transferred to the Deputy Captain-Generalship of the Manchu Bordered Yellow Banner, and Hai Shu is appointed Deputy Captain-General of the Manchu Bordered Blue Banner. Tsai Lan, Imperial Duke of the Third Degree, is appointed Deputy Captain-General of the Mongolian Red Banner.

(4) A decree appropriating a quantity of rice and grain to the winter refuges established by the various Peking charitable institutions for the use of the famine refugees from the recent floods.

His Majesty gave audience this morning in the Grand Council Chamber to Ch'ung Li, Ah K'è-tan, and Chang Ying-luan. Na Yen-t'u, Prince of the Khalka Mongols gave thanks personally to His Majesty for his recent appointments. The Earl of Hsing reported in person to His Majesty the result of his mission to sacrifice on the Emperor's behalf at the Imperial Tombs of the late Ming dynasty.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

In response to the memorial of the Board of War, His Majesty has appointed the Deputy Captain-Generals, Ch'ing Fu and P'eng Shou, to preserve order at the forthcoming military examinations for the *ch'ien* degree. Wang Luan-ming reports in a memorial the result of his mission to examine the works at the Western Imperial mausolea. Süu Yü-wèn, Governor of Shuntienfu, and his fellow-provincials gave thanks in a memorial for His Majesty's gracious gifts to their provincial guild in the capital. Ying Sing and Ch'ün Shou reported their return to Court duties this day.

ASKING FOR REMISSION OF TAXES.

T'an Chün-pei, an officer of the premier button and Governor of Yunnan, with the concurrence of Wang Wen-shao, Governor-General of the Yun-Kuei provinces, humbly begs for the Throne's bounty and prays that permission may be granted for the remission of the land taxes this year in certain portions of the province of Yunnan, devastated by floods and hailstorm during the summer of 1892. According to the joint report of Shih Nien-tsu, Provincial Treasurer, and the Grain Commissioner Ying Kuei, it seems that from the petition of the acting prefect of Tungch'uanfu, the acting sub-prefect of Kuangsi-chow, the acting district magistrate of Hueitschhsien,

the district magistrate of Lichianghsien, and the four deputies sent to examine the places above-named suffering from flood and hail, a large tract of country has been devastated. Thus the prefecture of Tungch'uanfu has a district covering 763 *mow*, 3 *fun*, and 1 *hao* of government land submerged, which should produce a yearly land tax in kind of 131 *piculs*, 8 *ton*, 2 *shên* odd of rice; in the sub-prefecture of Kuangsi-chow there are 637 *mow* and 7 *fun* submerged yielding a land tax during this autumn in kind of 9 *piculs*, 6 *ton*, 7 *shên* odd of rice; in the district magistracy of Hueitschhsien, 413 *mow*, 6 *fun* odd of land is flooded, which should give for the autumn taxes in kind 8 *piculs*, 6 *ton*, and 8 *shên* of rice; and lately in the district magistracy of Lichianghsien there are inundated an area of 1,400 *mow*, 9 *fun* of arable ground which should yield for the autumn taxes 22 *piculs*, 7 *ton*, and 8 *shên* odd of rice. As the people inhabiting the submerged district are an especially indigent and laborious lot, memorialist thinks that they deserve some sort of sympathy from government, over and above the relief already given them, a report of which was submitted to the Throne at the time, and hence prays the Throne to allow these sufferers exemption from taxes during 1892 and 1893.—*Rescript: Let it be as requested and let the Board of Revenue take note thereon.*

No other news of interest.

17th October.

THE COURT.

His Majesty gave audience this morning in the Grand Council Chamber to the Junior Lieutenant-General of the Peking Gendarmerie, or Police Provost Marshal, Ch'ang Ling and to the Vice-Presidents Li Tuan-fên and Fu Shêng-pu. Ch'ung Li and colleagues gave thanks in person to His Majesty for their recent appointments.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

The Consort of the Eldest Imperial Princess, Ts'ên Ts'ün-hsüan, and the Duke of Ling have asked for ten days' extra leave of absence from Court duties. Ch'ien Kuang having completed his leave of absence reports his return to Court duties.

A CASE OF ATTEMPTED BRIBERY.

Ch'u Chên-po, Censor of the Kiangsi Circuit, states that he has heard it reported that the Chief Imperial Examiner or Literary Chancellor of Chêkiang, while passing Soochow *en route* for Hangchow, arrested a man who had brought a letter containing a cheque as a bribe and that the delinquent had been handed over to the prefect of Soochow to be sent on under arrest to the capital of Chêkiang. If this be so, memorialist requests that a decree be promulgated for a searching enquiry to be made into the case by the high authorities of Chêkiang, and full punishment be meted out to the offenders. According to a report of the affair as told to the memorialist, it seems that as the Literary Chancellor in question, Ying Ju-chang, was passing Soochow *en route* for Hangchow, a man suddenly presented himself on board Ying Ju-chang's boat and handed him a letter containing a cheque or bank order for \$10,000, asking that the said Literary Chancellor should bear in mind the surnames and names of six of the candidates for the *Ch'ien* degree who expected to compete at the coming examinations at Hangchow. As soon as Ying Ju-chang had possessed himself of the contents of the letter, he at once ordered the detention of the bearer and handed him, the letter, and cheque to the care of the prefect of Soochow, formerly prefect of Chinkiang, named Wang Jen-k'an, with a request that he should examine the man and send the evidence and prisoner on to the Governor of Chêkiang, Sung Chün, at Hangchow. This affair has excited considerable comment in both the provinces of Kiangsu and Chêkiang, and great indignation is felt amongst the literati

of integrity and honesty of the above-named places. Even in Peking rumours are rife of the affair, and it is banded about as one of extreme rarity and audaciousness. The memorialist feels, moreover, that this is a case of the gravest importance affecting the strict integrity and secrecy of the examination hall, and for the audacity and defiance of law and custom of these persons to attempt bribery in this case he thinks that the strictest enquiry and full measurement of the law should be directed upon the criminal delinquents. If no notice be taken of it, there will be great danger of circumstances of still greater audacity and daring in the future.—*Decree already published.*

FULL REPORT OF THE CASE OF ATTEMPTED BRIBERY.

Sung Chün, Governor of Chêkiang, begs leave to make a truthful report in a case of attempted bribery, according to His Majesty's commands. On the 15th of September last, reports Tsao Shu-ch'iao, Provincial Judge of Chêkiang, he received a despatch from the Provincial Judge of Kiangsu to the effect that on the 7th of the same month, as the Imperial literary examiners of Chêkiang were passing Soochow *en route* for Hangchow from Peking, one Chou Fu-ts'ing sent a man, bearing a letter, on board the boat of Ying Ju-chang, the Chief Imperial Literary Chancellor, to whom he delivered the missive. Upon reading the contents, the Chancellor immediately ordered the arrest of the bearer of the letter, a man named T'ao Ah-shün, whom he sent to the prefect of Soochow for examination. The said letter was an attempt to bribe the said Chancellor, requesting him to pass certain candidates who were to present themselves for examination at the approaching literary examinations to be held at Hangchow by the special grace of the Throne in honour of H.I.M. the Empress Dowager's sixtieth birthday next year. The evidence of the said servant T'ao Ah-shün, bearer of Chou Fu-ts'ing's letter, being contradictory and discursive, the prefect of Soochow immediately sent the prisoner on to Hangchow to be examined by the memorialist, who, however, happened just then to be confined by his duties at the examination halls. Upon receipt of this intelligence, memorial ordered the Provincial Judge, Tsao Shu-ch'iao, and Liu Shu-t'ang, Treasurer, to preside over the case, and they in turn ordered the prefect of Hangchow, Ch'ên Chü, to make the preliminary investigations. According to the deposition of the said T'ao Ah-shün, he stated that he is a native of Shaoching, and a servant of one Ch'ên Shün-ch'uan belonging to the same city. In the middle of August, a friend of his master, one Chou Fu-ts'ing, requested the use of the witness's services, and he eventually followed him to Soochow, which was reached on the 5th of September. On the 7th of the same month, it being reported that the boats of the Imperial Literary Chancellors had arrived at Soochow, Chou Fu-ts'ing brought out a letter and his card and commanded him to take them on board the Chief Chancellor's boat. This he did, when he was suddenly arrested by the people on the boat. What the contents of the letter were, the witness reiterated that he knew nothing. The original envelope contained two sheets of paper; one was an order on a bank for \$10,000 and the other contained the surnames and ancestors' names to the second generation of six candidates namely, Ma, Ku, Ch'ên, Süu, Chang, and Chou, the last named being the son of the writer of the letter. In addition were certain characters to be used at the heading of the theses which were to point out the personality of the five candidates who had subscribed the bribe of \$10,000. Furthermore, a card containing the words "Your Uncouth Younger

Brother and Academy-mate Chou Fu-ts'ing," accompanied this letter and cheque. All these particulars were sent in to memorialist while occupied within the examination halls. After the examinations memorialist found that only the son of Chou Fu-ts'ing and the one named Ma tallied in name and ancestral pedigree on their papers with those given by the said Chou Fu-ts'ing in his letter, while as nothing could be made of the surnames of Ku, Ch'en, Sün, and Chang, the memorialist only felt justified in cancelling the theses of the first two candidates, it being impossible to identify the persons of the last four surnames, hence nothing has been done in regard to them. As for Chou Fu-ts'ing, memorialist only knows that he is a man of high rank, while according to the papers of his son he has further learnt that the said Chou Fu-ts'ing is a native of Huichihien in the prefecture of Shao-shingfu. According, however, to the deposition of the said servant T'ao Ah-shün, Chou Fu-ts'ing is a *Chinshih* or Metropolitan graduate and Secretary of the Grand Secretariat at Peking now on leave of absence on account of mourning. As the letter was given in a neighbouring province it was not known whether Chou Fu-ts'ing was still in Kiangsu or whether he had returned to his home in Chékiang. Instructions were therefore given to the district magistrates of Huichihien (Shaoshing) and Jénhohsien (Hangchow) to make secret enquiries as to the whereabouts of the culprit, but the search has been unsuccessful and Chou Fu-ts'ing is still at large. It being extremely necessary that Chou Fu-ts'ing be arrested in order to get at the bottom of the matter, and unless he be cashiered to the common rank he will still refuse to make the requisite, "confession," memorialist requests that Chou Fu-ts'ing be forthwith degraded and stripped of his rank, in order that when arrested he may be tried as a common felon.—*Rescript: Decree already published.*

18th October.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Ma T'ing-siang is appointed Lieutenant-Colonel of the Right battalion of the Tientsin city garrison.

(2) Tè Shéng is appointed Superintendent of Customs (Hoppo) at Canton.

THE COURT.

His Majesty granted audience this morning in the Grand Council Chamber to Yung Kuei, Privy Councillor, and to Ying Nien, Acting Junior Vice-President of the Board of Works.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

In response to the memorial of the Board of Works His Majesty has appointed Huai Ta-pu, Chief Commissioner of the Peking Octroi, to be also Inspecting Commissioner of the metropolitan canals, river works, etc. The Expectant Commodore Han Ts'ün-kao and Captain Chou Fang-ming gave thanks for their new appointments.

A CASE OF DUPLICATE WIVES.

Fu Yün, Governor of Shantung, reports the result of his investigation into a case which was taken away from his jurisdiction by the plaintiff and brought up to the Court of Censors at Peking, but again referred to memorialist by a decree of the Throne in the month of November, 1892. The case was first sent to the Provincial Judge, Sung Lin, by memorialist for trial and afterwards verified by him in person. According to the evidence adduced it appears that the appellant, a commoner by the name of Ts'ai Ta-k'uei, a native of Kiangsu, residing in Shantung, charged the respondent or defendant, T'uan Kuo-chün, a native of Honan, but now an expectant district magistrate of Shantung, of having by false pretences inveigled a maiden belonging to appellant's clan into marriage and then by ill-treatment encompassed her death, but that trusting in his, the respondent's, official status and

influence, he defied the arm of Justice from taking its course. Such were the charges. But an investigation into the evidence has placed another aspect on the affair, which subsequently was acknowledged by the appellant who eventually confessed that his charges were made under the influence of excitement and suspicion, caused by over-estimating certain circumstantial evidence. The facts of the case stands therefore as follows: T'uan Kuo-chün, an expectant *cheshien* of Shantung, has an only son T'uan T'ing-ch'i, at the time a salaried Licentiate of his native town of Tsiyuanhsien, Hunan; but this son, owing to there being no issue of the elder brother of the respondent T'uan Kuo-chün, was many years ago adopted by this elder brother, or own uncle of the said T'uan T'ing-ch'i, who in Honan got a wife for his adopted son or nephew, from the K'ung clan. With this wife T'uan T'ing-ch'i lived happily for some years but up to 1891 had no children by her. As is customary, when two brothers or relatives have only one son between them to hand down the family name and offer the ancestral sacrifices, the adopted father generally gets a wife for the child of his adoption while the parent himself also procures an extra wife for his son, in order to make sure of the chance of having a grandson, especially if the wife procured by the adopted parent prove barren. The respondent T'uan Kuo-ch'i, finding, therefore, that K'ung Shih, the wife of his son T'uan T'ing-ch'i procured by his uncle or adopted father had so far been without issue, accordingly set about to procure a wife for his son in Shantung, unknown to the latter. The girl chosen to be the wife of T'uan T'ing-ch'i, was a maiden of the Ts'ai clan, of which the appellant Ts'ai Ta-k'uei is the male representative in Shantung. In November 1891, the said T'uan T'ing-ch'i and his first wife K'ung Shih having come to Shantung from Honan, his father, the respondent ordered him to marry Ts'ai Shih, which was done as the former dared not disobey his father's commands. So far the new couple lived happily together, and the two co-wives K'ung Shih and Ts'ai Shih also lived amicably together calling each other "sisters" according to etiquette. A month after the marriage however, it seems that the new wife happened to retire first without waiting for her husband, an act which was taken umbrage at by the latter, who reprimanded Ts'ai Shih for her want of respect for her lord and husband. Ts'ai Shih who seemed to be a girl of spirit retorted, and an altercation ensued, but peace was apparently restored through the intercession of a female servant Chéng Wang-shih, and the husband accordingly left the room while the servant after staying with the bride a short time, also retired to rest in her own quarters. Much to the consternation of everyone Ts'ai Shih was found the next morning quite dead, suspended by the neck from one of the windows of her apartment. The news was immediately communicated to the mother of Ts'ai Shih, called Ts'ai Tu-shih, who was exceedingly grieved at her daughter's unexpected suicide, and on the other hand the father-in-law, T'uan Kuo-ch'i, the respondent, also notified the district magistrate of the town to conduct an inquest on the body. But the mother of the dead girl, could not bear to think of this and willingly signified her desire to the local magistrate to forego the inquest. The body of the dead woman was therefore laid in a coffin and the T'uan family gave her the best of everything so far as funeral obsequies and Buddhist ceremonies went, the expenses on this occasion being about Tls. 500. All this time the appellant, Ts'ai Ta-k'uei, was away from Shantung and knew nothing of the affair. On his return from a trading trip, however, he was so much shocked, so he states, at the suicide of his relative, that he immediately became

suspicious that she had died by foul means, and that the jealousy of K'ung Shih, the first wife, was at the bottom of the whole thing. The foregoing of the inquest was also a matter for suspicion, and the tears and lamentations of the mother of the bride so goaded him to madness that he immediately began to sue the respondent at the court of the then acting Governor of Shantung, the Provincial Treasurer, T'ang P'ing-chên, stating that his relative Ts'ai Shih had died under suspicious circumstances, and that T'uan Kuo-chün taking advantage of his official position prevented for obvious reasons the taking place of the inquest. This case was deputed by the acting Governor to the prefect of T'ungch'angfu; but before anything had been done by this official in the matter, Ts'ai Ta-k'uei had already gone up to Peking to appeal to the Court of Censors; in which he himself acknowledges that he had added the charges above-named against the respondent, in order to strengthen his case, while on the other hand he also confessed that he had no enmity against the T'uan family. But now having heard the evidence of all parties, he confessed that he had been too rash and precipitous in making his charges. As the law in the appellant's case provides 40 blows of the bamboo and a fine, memorialist has sentenced him to this punishment, while the respondent is also wrong for having of his own accord sought for a second wife for his son, which as an official he should have first obtained the consent of the Throne before doing. He is therefore turned over to the proper Board for the determination of a penalty. As the son was only following his father's commands in marrying Ts'ai Shih, he is held blameless as also the go-between Wang Lu-san, who acted throughout in a straightforward manner, according to the custom that obtains throughout the empire.—*Rescript: Let the Board of Punishments report thereon.*

19th October.

IMPERIAL DECREES.

(1) Regarding the request for instructions by the Grand Court of Sacrificial Worship as to the sacrifices at the ancestral temple of our house on the 8th of November, this day being the first month of the winter term, be it known that we will go in person to the said temple to pay personal sacrifice, while it is our desire that K'uei Pin proceed to the Rear Shrines, En Ch'ing to the Eastern Court and Wên Hsi to the Western Court, for the purpose of sacrificing in our stead.

(2) Lung Ching is commanded to sacrifice at the Rear Shrines of the ancestral temple of the Imperial house on the 17th of November, on the occasion of the fifty-ninth anniversary of H.I.M. the Empress Dowager's birthday.

THE COURT.

His Majesty gave audience this morning in the Grand Council Chamber to Hsi Ching, and Tè Shéng, the newly-appointed Hoppo of Canton.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

The Duke of Tsé has been appointed to sacrifice in His Majesty's stead at the ancestral tablets in the Palace on the 24th of October. The Duke of Na asks for five days' extra leave of absence. Prince Ch'ing and his colleagues give thanks for the Imperial gifts. The Consort of the Eighth Imperial Princess having completed his leave of absence reports his return to Court duties. Chu Siang-hsing, newly-appointed Lieutenant-Colonel in Kansu, Su Tè-shéng, newly-appointed Colonel in the same province, and Tè Shéng, newly-appointed Hoppo of Canton, all give thanks for the Imperial bounty.

No other news of interest.

20th October.

THE COURT.

His Majesty gave audience in the Grand Council Chamber this morning to Sung Shêng and Ch'ung Kuang.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENTS.

Tsai Ying, Prince of the 3rd Order, reports his return to Court duties after completing his leave of absence. Tung Kuei-yu, newly-appointed an expectant General of the 3rd Class, and Chin Yü-t'ien, newly-appointed Colonel in Kiangsu province, both gave thanks this morning for the Imperial bounty.

PROMOTION OF CHINESE CONSULS.

Ts'ui Kuo-yin, Minister to the United States, Spain and Peru, asks for the Imperial bounty in connection with rewards of promotion in rank in the case of three members of his suite, and in accordance with the rules decided upon by the Tsungli Yamen in favour of Chinese officials who have completed three full lunar years of service abroad. In the case of T'an Ch'ien-ts'u, an unattached expectant prefect, Consul-General of Cuba, memorialist asks that he shall be promoted to be an unattached expectant Taotai, with a brevet button of the second rank; Liu Chung-fan, an unattached sub-prefect of the third-class, who is an *attaché* in the New York Consulate, to be a prefect (unattached) with a brevet button of the 3rd rank; Ho Shêng-tze, an interpreter in the Legation and sub-magistrate, to be a district magistrate (unattached); and Ku Chin-huei, a government student with the brevet sixth button, now Consular agent in Honolulu, Hawaiian Islands, to be a sub-magistrate with a posthumous title of the 5th grade on behalf of his parents.—*Rescript: Let it be as requested and let the proper yamen take note.*

Meetings.

MUNICIPAL COUNCIL.

At a Meeting of the Council held in the Board Room, No. 23, Kiangse Road, Shanghai, on Tuesday the 12th December, 1893, at 4 o'clock p.m.

Present:—Messrs. J. L. Scott (Chairman), F. Anderson, J. Cooper, J. Graham, D. C. Jansen, D. M. Moses, J. Welch, and the Secretary.

The *Summons* calling the meeting is taken as read.

The *Minutes* of the last meeting are read, confirmed, signed by the Chairman, and passed for publication.

Cash Statement for the past week is submitted and cheques for sundry accounts are signed.

Return of Prisoners apprehended and police daily reports for the past week are submitted.

Native Theatres.—The following letter is read and ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 12th December, 1893.

DEAR SIR,—I beg to call your attention to the fact that there are several Chinese theatres in this Settlement, which are filled every night with crowded houses, when the conditions are similar to those of the theatre just burned at Ningpo with such disastrous results, and to suggest that a careful police supervision be exercised over these theatres and adequate provision be made to ensure a safe exit in case of fire.

I remain, Dear Sir,

Your respectfully,

WONG CUMMING.

R. F. THORBURN, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council.

Decided to get a report upon the different theatres from the Engineer and Captain Superintendent of Police, and to refuse in future to license any one which is not provided with convenient and sufficient means of exit, etc.

Additional Police Station.—The following correspondence is ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 11th December, 1893.

SIR,—We shall thank you to lay the following before your Council at their next meeting.

The locality from the North Honan Road and westwards has gradually become more and more densely populated and is now really a large district. As this locality is far from any of the existing Municipal Police stations, it will be a great boon to the occupants of the houses in that neighbourhood, if the Council will build a small Police Station there for the protection of their property.

We may here mention that while the houses between the North Honan and North Fuhkien Roads were being built, several thefts were committed, which were duly reported to the Police authorities.

The tenants in that locality all pay Municipal taxes, and the Council will confer a great favour on them by extending to them a little more Police protection.

We remain, Sir,

Your obedient servants,
E. D. SASSOON AND CO.

MORRISON & GRATTON, on behalf
of the owners of Cadastral lots
53 to 55 and 60 to 69.

J. H. P. PARKER,
L. S. LITTLE,

塘蓮

i.e. Chu Lin Dong.

To R. F. THORBURN, Esq.,
Secretary, Municipal Council,
Shanghai.

Shanghai, 13th December, 1893.

GENTLEMEN,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 11th inst., which has been submitted to the Council, who in reply direct me to inform you, that so soon as the Boundary of Hongkew was definitely settled, they commenced to police the new districts included within it, and endeavours were made to acquire a site for a small Police station between the North Honan, and North Fohkien Roads, but nothing could be done owing to the extremely high rates asked by the owners for land in this neighbourhood.

The Council have still under consideration the building of a small station and they will be glad if you can suggest a suitable site for it, the land for which they will be able to acquire at a reasonable price.

I am, Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

R. F. THORBURN,
Secretary.

Messrs. E. D. SASSOON & Co.,
and others, Shanghai.

Morrison Road.—Report by the Engineer is submitted stating that Mr. Pereira has offered to sell to the Council for the sum of Tls. 1,009, a small lot of land measuring about 1 acre encroaching on the line of the Morrison Road, and as the greater portion of it is required in order to allow of the road being made 30 feet wide, and the price named for the lot is moderate, he recommends that it should be purchased.

Decided to agree to this being done.

Trees.—The following correspondence is submitted and ordered to be published:—

Shanghai, 9th December, 1893.

SIR,—I am informed that you have very kindly offered to send us out some plane trees to ornament the roads of the Settlement. The members of the Council are extremely obliged to you for this handsome and thoughtful gift which as it happens is exactly what they are in need of at the moment. They will therefore accept with many thanks whatever quantity you care to bestow.

I am, Dear Sir,

Yours faithfully,

JAMES L. SCOTT,
Chairman.

THOS. HANBURY, Esq.,
Shanghai.

Shanghai, 9th December, 1893.

DEAR SIR,—In reply to yours of this day, I beg to say I sent by the last English mail an order to ship from Marseilles forthwith 10 plane trees of a suitable size for planting in the public streets here. I, however, limited the order in time to 10th February for embarkation, because after that I consider it would be too late for this season's planting.

The French plan is to lop and prune this tree so severely each year as, in my opinion, to spoil its symmetry and grace; in England, on the contrary, it is left to develop naturally; splendid examples are therefore seen in London—I would particularly instance those in Berkeley Square, which exceed in size and beauty any I have seen in France.

Yours faithfully,

THOMAS HANBURY.

JAMES L. SCOTT, Esq.,

Chairman, Municipal Council.

The Chairman mentions that the Engineer has also been instructed to arrange for getting out from home 200 plane trees which it is estimated will cost about one tael each.

Native Livery Stables.—Report by the Inspector is read stating that he visited the different stables at intervals during November and found the ponies in good condition and fit for work. 383 carriages and 463 ponies have been licensed for December, against 438 carriages and 511 ponies last month, and 222 of each in December, 1892.

Two livery stable keepers have closed their establishments during the month, the reason given being the bad times, and the fact that jinrikshas are now used instead of carriages by the natives.

3,295 jinrikshas and 3,396 wheelbarrows have been licensed for December.

Sanitary Board.—The following extracts from the Minute of the meeting of the Board on the 29th ulto. are ordered to be published:—

Latrines in North Louza.—Mr. Cameron, Sanitary Inspector, reports that he has arranged for the filling in of six objectionable open pits in this district in which night soil is collected.

Washing Houses.—Each of the members having visited the establishment where his clothes are washed, is satisfied that much improvement is needed, and they agree that a good deal may be done by conjoint private action, by insisting upon cleaner wash-houses, that they shall not be used as dwelling houses or sleeping places by the washmen, that water from the Waterworks Co. shall be used, and the surroundings better cleaned and drained. The members propose to ask their washmen to make these improvements, and will report the result, but the Board is not prepared in the meantime to recommend a public washing house scheme. A supply of better laundries is bound to follow a demand for them, and a demand for them is almost certain to be the result if the members of the community will take the trouble to inspect personally the places where their clothes are now washed.

Death Rate.—The following is the summary of death returns for October.

Native.	English Settlement.	Hongkew.	Foreign.	Total.
1890.	82	112	194	7
1891.	99	131	230	14
1892.	66	106	172	10
1893.	94	132	226	4

Police.—Return of apprehensions, etc., made by the Municipal Police during the week ending the 16th day of December, 1893:—

Offences.	No. of apprehensions.
Breach of Municipal Regulations	1
Burglary	1
Cutting and wounding	5
Forgery	7
Gambling	40
Larceny from dwellings, etc.	35
Miscellaneous cases	87
Ricsha Licences suspended	652
Wheelbarrow Licences suspended	45
Handcart	4
Beggars, Hawkers, and Ragpickers ..	345

Total number of persons coming under the notice of Police 1,222
Chinese dead bodies found in streets .. 2
Stray dogs captured 149

J. P. McEUES.

Captain Superintendent, S.M.P.

The Meeting then adjourned.

Dr.
To Amount at Credit brought down Tls. 745.00

IN ACCOUNT WITH HON. TREASURER.
Dr. Tls.
To Amount at Credit of Reserve Fund 745.00
" " " Working Account 0.84

Tls. 745.84
Cr. Tls.
By Subscriptions to be collected from
absent Members 51.52
" Cash in Hongkong and Shanghai
Bank, as per Pass Book 694.32
Tls. 745.84

E. & O. E.
Shanghai, 9th December, 1893.
C. E. ANTON,
Hon. Treasurer.
Audited with Vouchers and found correct.
W. F. INGLIS.

Report.

MAJOR BROTHERS, LIMITED.

REPORT

of the Directors, for presentation to the Shareholders at the Fourth Annual General Meeting to be held at the Company's Office, No. 18, Hankow Road, on Wednesday, the 27th December, 1893, at 4 o'clock p.m.

The Directors have now the pleasure to submit to the Shareholders the duly audited accounts for the fourth year's operations of the Company, ended 31st October, 1893.

The total profits from the various departments, after providing for General Expenses, Salaries and Remuneration to Directors and Auditor, amount to (including Tls. 623.53 brought forward) Tls. 16,419.36, which the Directors recommend should be carried forward to provide for the working of new departments.

The decrease in revenue arises in the Acid Works, which department has suffered considerably from the condition of the silver market and its effect upon the demand for acid. A change may occur at any moment; but another outlet is being sought in the preparation of a chemical fertiliser which has been put under trial in various agricultural districts. If this preparation finds the favour the Directors think it deserves, the result cannot fail to have a marked influence for good upon the revenue derived from the manufacture of acids.

In the last Report the Directors alluded to the desirability of extending operations in the directions which promise remunerative results, and they have entered upon the manufacture of cotton-seed oil and cake, and of alcohol. These works entail considerable outlay for buildings, machinery and plant; but the results are confidently expected to be highly satisfactory.

The Soap Department has been improved and placed under the management of a highly recommended and experienced soap-maker, engaged in London for the purpose. The prospects of this branch are very encouraging.

The Match Department has had to encounter still greater opposition; but consequent upon the importation of new machinery, and production of a new match for which there is a considerable and increasing demand, there is every reason to believe the result of this department for the coming year will be quite satisfactory.

The Shun Pau has successfully maintained its position against increased competitors.

The Directors are of opinion that the Company has suffered much from the depression which has affected all branches of trade and manufacture during the past two years; but they think also that the worst is now over, and they have the fullest confidence in the future of the Company.

Director.—Mr. J. Chambers retires, in accordance with the Articles of Association, but being eligible, offers himself for re-election.

Auditor.—The Directors recommend the re-election of Mr. Wilmer Harris for the current year.

Secretary and General Manager.—Mr. Findlay has resigned his position as from the

30th April next. The appointment of a successor will have the Directors' attention.

J. CHAMBERS,
Chairman.

Shanghai, 14th December, 1893.

MAJOR BROTHERS, LIMITED.
BALANCE SHEET, 31st October, 1893.
Liabilities. Tls.
Capital ... Tls. 300,000.00
" uncalled ... " 25,000.00
Bills Payable ... 275,000.00
Sundry Creditors ... 10,156.99
Profit and Loss—Balance ... 2,989.63
16,419.36
Tls. 304,565.98

Assets. Tls.
House Property ... 52,836.07
Landed Property ... 29,525.60
Plant & Furniture ... Tls. 63,171.54
" " Added ... " 789.03
Shun Pau Plant and Purchase ... 63,960.57
Oil Plant and Building ... 69,957.46
Alcohol Plant ... 5,963.17
Cash at Bank ... 1,085.54
" (Dividend Account) ... 2,946.07
" with Shroff ... 67.50
" with Acid Works Manager ... 983.51
Sui Chong Contractor—Loan ... 203.82
" Current Account ... 16,500.00
" Suspense Account ... 1,736.78
Fire Insurance, unexpired ... 580.00
Stocks and Plant afloat ... 641.52
Stocks on hand ... 10,156.99
Current Accounts ... 35,157.34
Sundry Debtors ... 5,624.39
6,639.63
Tls. 304,565.98

PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT.

Dr. Tls.
To Taxes, General Charges, Stationery, Advertising and Exchange ... 896.12
" Salaries ... 3,973.39
" Directors' and Auditor's Fees ... 1,450.00
" Telegrams ... 481.27
" Fire Insurance ... 653.09
" Balance as above ... 16,419.36
Tls. 23,873.23

Cr. Tls.
By Balance from last year ... 623.53
" Net gain from all departments ... 22,262.18
" Interest Account ... 787.14
" Rent Account ... 146.00
" Share Transfer Account ... 23.02
" Insurance Returns ... 31.36
Tls. 23,873.23

Shanghai as at 31st October, 1893.

J. FINDLAY,
Secretary.

J. CHAMBERS, }
J. D. THORBURN, } Directors.

I hereby certify that I have compared the foregoing statements with the General Ledger and have found them to agree therewith.

I have also examined the Company's Securities and found them in order.

I have, further, compared the entries in the various Cash Books of each department, and the Journal, for the year ending 31st October, 1893, with the cheque books, Bank pass-books and other vouchers, and have found them all correct. I can also certify that the Cash Balances are sufficiently vouched for.

WILMER HARRIS,
Auditor.

Shanghai, 8th December, 1893.

ROWLAND'S MACASSAR OIL pret serves and strengthens the hair, prevents it falling off or turning grey, and is the best brillianter for everybody's use, and as a small bottle lasts a very long time it is really most economical for general use; also golden colour for fair hair. ROWLAND'S KALYDOR is most soothing, cooling and healing for the face and hands; removes freckles, tan, sunburn, redness, &c., and produces soft, fair skin. Sold by chemists. Ask for ROWLAND'S, of 20, Hatton Garden, London.

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Poetry.

AUNT HANNAH ON THE PARLIAMENT OF RELIGIONS.

Wall—I'm glad enough I'm humagin—kin
rest my weary brain,
For I've seen an' heered so much too much,
I guess I've heered in vain.
I thought th' Fair was mixin' an' th' Mid-
way made me crawl.
But th' Parl'ment of Religions was th'
mixin'est of all!

I seen th' Turks a-going round th' Midway
in th' Fair,
But our minister repr'ed me when he
seen me peep in thair.
"Defilin' place," he called it, an, th' Turk
"a child of sin";
But th' Parl'ment of Religions took all
them heathen in.

It made me squirm a little, to see some
heathen's air,
As he told us Christians 'bout our faults
an' laid 'em out so bare.
But their flowin' robes was tellin' an' th' air
mighty takin' folk.
So th' Parl'ment of Religions clapped to
every word they spoke.

I listened to th' Buddhi-t, in his robes of
shinin' white,
As he told how like to Christ's thair lives,
while ours was not—a mite,
'Tel I felt, to lead a Christian life, a Budd-
hist I mus: be,
An' th' Parl'ment of Religions brought
religious doubt to me.

Then I heered th' han'some Hindoo monk,
drest up in orange dress,
Who sed that all humanity was part of
God—no less,
An' he sed we was not sinners, so I comfort
took, once more,
While th' Parl'ment of Religions roared
with approving roar.

Then a Cath'lic man got up an' spoke, about
Christ an' th' Cross;
But th' Christians of th' other creeds, they
giv' thair heds a toss,
When th' Baptist spoke, the Presbyterians
seemed to be fightin' mad,
'Tel the Parl'ment of Religions made my
pore soul feel sad.

I've listened to th' Buddhist, to th' Hindoo
and th' Turk;
I've tried to find th' truth that in our
different sects may lurk.
'Tel my pore old brain it buzzes, like it's
goin' religious mad—
For th' Parl'ment of Religions nigh put
out th' light I had.

So I'll just leave all this sarchin' 'tel I
reach th' other side;
An' treat all men as brothers while on this
airth I bide,
An' let "Love" be my motto, 'tel I enter
in th' door
Of that great Religious Parl'ment, where
creeds don't count no more.

—Minnie Andrews Snell, in the *Open Court*.

DEAFNESS COMPLETELY CURED!

Any person suffering from Deafness, Noises in the Head, &c., may learn of a new, simple treatment, which is proving very successful in completely curing cases of all kinds. Full particulars, including many unsolicited testimonials and newspaper press notices, will be sent post free on application. The system is without doubt, the most successful ever brought before the public. Address, Aural Specialist, Albany Buildings, 39, Victoria Street, Westminster, London. S.W.

20jy 101

Amusements.

THE PHILHARMONIC CONCERT.

The Lyceum Theatre was crowded on Tuesday evening, a large number of ladies and gentlemen being in the gallery, on the occasion of the sixteenth subscription concert, the first of the present season, by the Shanghai Philharmonic Society. It was an excellent concert, with a very well arranged programme, the instrumental music being generally new, attractive, and thoroughly within the resources of the orchestra, as well as enjoyable to the audience; and so far we can most heartily congratulate the Society, and its invaluable Conductor, Commander Vela, but it would have been better still if the orchestra had been larger. We trust that we need not infer from the smallness of the number of "strings" on the stage that there is any decline in the interest taken by the members in the work of the Society. It was quite evident long before the Overture was begun that there is no decline in the interest taken by the public in the Society's entertainments; and we hope that at the seventeenth concert the stage will be as well filled as on any of the previous evenings. Among the orchestra there were, as before, some five or six ladies, who not merely form a delightful element in the *coup d'œil*, but whose devotion to the divine art of music is not surpassed by that of any of their masculine colleagues.

The Overture to Mozart's *Don Juan*, perhaps the greatest opera that was ever written, made an admirable opening number, and it was very well played, allowing for an occasional inevitable want of the relief which more violins would have given. The second instrumental number was a violin solo by a young lady whose progress in the art Shanghai has watched with deep interest, from the time when she first appeared in the orchestra, and whose execution of Beethoven's Romance in F was deservedly heartily applauded. For an encore piece, without which the audience would not be satisfied, she played with equal skill a short *morceau*, Commr. Vela accompanying on the piano. The first part closed with three movements from *Airs de Ballet* by Lippacher, very pretty music, with a striking *allegretto*, whose lightness contrasted prettily with the flowing melody of the *andantino*. The prelude by Massenet, *Le Dernier Sonmeil de la Vierge*, opened the second part of the concert; it is a pity that owing to the small number of first violins, the composer's intention to use muted strings could not be carried out. This was followed by an eccentric, but decidedly attractive with its quaint recurring motif, *Danse des Prêtresses de Diane* from St. Saens' *Samson et Dalila*. The gem of the evening was Handel's *Largo*, excellently played, Mrs. Adler at the last moment undertaking most successfully the harp part on the piano. This talented amateur gave the same invaluable assistance in the *Ballet* and in the *Danse* by St. Saens. The last instrumental piece was the tuneful March by Wachs, *Les Muscadiers*.

Mr. J. C. Johnston was encored in his rendering of "Pack, Clouds, away," and repeated the last verse, and we welcome in him a valuable addition to the ranks of our concert singers. Miss Wilcockson, who also appeared for the first time, simply charmed the audience with her delicious and artistic rendering of Mascaroni's "For all Eternity." Her voice is pure and fresh and true, and her intonation excellent, nor did a slight natural nervousness detract in any way from the prettiness of her song. She was enthusiastically encored, and gave with equal success M. V. White's "Absent, yet present." Mrs. Bland's fine voice would have been heard still better if

her song, B. Tours' "Because of Thee," had been accompanied by the piano instead of the orchestra. The song which she kindly gave as an encore was greatly enjoyed. Last but very far from least, among the vocal artists, came Mr. Wedemeyer, whose rendering of R. de Koven's "Oh! promise me" was a genuine treat, and it is doubtful if his splendid baritone voice has ever been better heard. It was intensely appreciated by the audience, and in acknowledgement he sang Helmund's "Thy Daily Question" with excellent feeling and expression.

There were, it will be seen, four vocal numbers in the programme, each of which was encored, and we would suggest to the Committee whether it would not be better for the singers to put each of them down twice in the programme and proscribe encores, so that each singer would have an interval between the songs, instead of having to follow on at once.

SATURDAY'S PAPER HUNT.

After the long spell of dry weather it was only to be expected that Saturday's hunt would be a dusty one, but despite that drawback it attracted a rather numerous field of starters and was much enjoyed by all who went through it. Mr. Renny, the winner of the previous hunt, laid the paper, which started behind Sicaewi village, and went along the Old Handicap line as far as the Inner Hungjao line, where a check was laid. It then led to the Old Woman's Bridge, which was crossed. Passing on towards Burkill's Dry Cuts another check was given, and the course then bore by the plum tree, going round in a loop towards Jessfield. Crossing the road it turned into the country again, the finish being over Galles' Grave. As we have said the hunt was a very pleasurable one, but it was not without a fair amount of "grief," and there were several nasty "scrambles." It was gratifying to notice the return of a keen and well-known rider in the person of Mr. Perrott, who, although not placed at the finish, hunted the paper with all the ardour of old. The competitors came in sight of the flags at about five minutes past four, and Mr. G. Dallas, on *Maloja*, taking the last jump in excellent style, won by several yards. Mr. Midwood, on *Auctioneer*, was second, Mr. Middleton, on *Kingcraft*, was third, and secured the heavy-weight prize, Mr. Souter, on *Guarantee*, was fourth, Mr. Jones, on *Maypole*, fifth and Mr. H. H. Read, on *Haphazard*, sixth.

FOOTBALL.

H.M.S. "CAROLINE" v. H.M.S. "PORPOISE."

A match between H.M.S. *Caroline* and *Porpoise* was played yesterday afternoon under Association rules, the ground having been kindly lent for this purpose by the Shanghai Football Club. Play commenced at 3.45, and during the first half was in favour of the *Caroline* men, who, considering that it is the first time they have played together, acquitted themselves with great credit, making three direct shots at their opponents' goal, which in each case failed to score owing to smart goal-keeping. During the second half the *Porpoise* team, with full determination not to be beaten, came to the front and scored two goals, the play being fast and furious. H. Boughtflower was conspicuous as a goal-keeper; J. Harpum, J. Lambert and F. Honeysett showed up well for the *Porpoise*; while Mr. Woods, J. Edwards, W. Waldram and T. Gibb figured prominently for the *Caroline*. The teams were:—H.M.S. *Caroline*—J. Brown, C. Short, Mr. Hargraves, J. Edwards, W. Andrews (forwards), T. Gibb, Mr. McLean, W. Clarke (½ backs), Mr. Wood W. Waldram (full backs), J. Holyoake (goal-keeper). H.M.S. *Porpoise*—Mr. Sparks, C. Beresford, J. Lambert, D. Duggan, A. Past (forwards), J. Harpum, W. Frost,

F. Honeysett (½ back), W. Brown, H. Stowell, (full backs), H. Boughtflower (goal-keeper).

FOOCHOW RACES.

WINTER MEETING, 1893.

Stewards:—H. BAKER, Esq., THOS. GITTINS, Esq., H. EDGAR, Esq., W. KROHN, Esq., J. C. OSWALD, Esq., C. B. RICKETT, Esq., A. W. WALKINSHAW, Esq.
Hon. Secretary and Treasurer:—J. C. OSWALD, Esq.

Starter:—W. P. GALTON, Esq.

Judge:—R. R. WESTALL, Esq.

Clerk of the Course:—R. RAMSAY, Esq.

FIRST DAY,

Tuesday, 12th December, 1893.

1.—THE STEWARDS' CUP—(Presented).—Value \$100. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Entrance \$5.—Half-a-mile.
at lbs.

Mr. Trebau's brown <i>Beswing</i> (Mr. Bartlett)	11	1..1
„ Cass's brown <i>Primrose</i> (Mr. Oswald)	11	1..2
„ August's grey <i>Democrat</i> (Mr. Drummond)	10	12..3
Baron Bunkum's dun <i>Yarra</i> (Mr. Sassoon)	11	1..0

Time, 63secs.

2.—THE GRIFFINS' STAKES of \$10 each, with \$50 added. For all China Ponies that have never run at any Meeting. Weights as per scale.—Three-quarters of a mile.
at lbs.

Messrs. Rouge et Noir's bay <i>Roulette</i> (Mr. Oswald)	10	12..1
Major Clachnacuddin's grey <i>Santa Cruz</i> (Mr. Drummond)	10	12..2
Mr. Min's grey <i>Grey Beard</i> (Mr. Baker)	11	10..3
Baron Bunkum's bay <i>Joss</i> (Mr. Bartlett)	11	1..0

Time, 44secs.

3.—THE HONGKONG CUP.—(Presented.) Value \$200. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Entrance \$10.—One mile and a half.
at lbs.

Mr. Gamecock's grey <i>Shawnee</i> (Mr. Sassoon)	11	1..1
„ Min's white <i>Snowstorm</i> (Mr. Baker)	11	10..2
„ August's bay <i>Aristocrat</i> (Mr. Drummond)	11	1..3
General Wynnor's grey <i>Boldheart</i> (Mr. Oswald)	11	1..0

Time, 3mins, 28secs.

4.—THE MIN STAKES of \$10 each, with \$50 added, divided 70, 20 and 10 per cent. to the first, second and third Ponies. For all China Ponies. *bona fide* griffins at the date of entry. Weights as per scale. Winners 7lbs. extra.—One mile and a quarter.
at lbs.

Mr. Min's grey <i>Grey Beard</i> (Mr. Sassoon)	11	1..1
Messrs. Rouge et Noir's bay <i>Roulette</i> (Mr. Oswald)	11	5..2
Major Clachnacuddin's grey <i>Santa Cruz</i> (Mr. Drummond)	10	12..3
Baron Bunkum's bay <i>Joss</i> (Mr. Bartlett)	11	1..0

Time, 3mins, 0secs.

5.—THE TEAMEN'S CUP.—(Presented.) Value \$— For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Winners 7lbs. extra. Entrance \$5.—One mile.
at lbs.

Mr. Ramsay's bay <i>Congo</i> (Mr. Ramsay)	11	1..1
„ August's grey <i>Democrat</i> (Mr. Drummond)	10	12..2
„ Cass's cream <i>Primrose</i> (Mr. Oswald)	11	1..3
Baron Bunkum's dun <i>Yarra</i> (Mr. Bartlett)	11	1..0

Time, 2mins, 16secs.

6.—THE HACK STAKES of \$10 each, with \$10 added for each starter. For all China Ponies not otherwise entered at this Meeting except for the Subscription Stakes and the Cosmopolitan Cup. Catch Weights over 12 stone. Jockeys who have never had a winning mount in China or Hongkong previous to this Meeting allowed 7lbs. Ponies that have never won a race allowed 7lbs.—Half-a-mile.

	st.	lbs.
Dr. Gardener's chestnut <i>Benjy</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	12	0 1
Baron Bunkum's white <i>Autocrat</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	12	0 2
General Toptigin's dun <i>Pluto</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	12	0 3
Mr. Dorset's white <i>Kullang</i> (Mr. Ramsay).....	12	0 0
„ Min's grey <i>Kyleakin</i> (Mr. Baker).....	12	0 9
„ Gamecock's chestnut <i>Musket</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	12	0 0
„ Ramsay's white <i>Strathmore</i> (Mr. Edgar).....	12	4 0
Time, 65 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.		
7.—THE CHAMPS ELYSEES CUP.—(Presented.) Value \$— For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Grifflins at date of entry allowed 7lbs. Winners at this Meeting 7lbs. extra. Entrance \$5.—Twice round and a distance.		
Mr. Ramsay's white <i>Flashlight</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	1 1
„ August's bay <i>Aristocrat</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	11	1 2
Baron Bunkum's grey <i>Woodman</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	4 3
Time, 3mins. 35secs.		

SECOND DAY,

Wednesday, 14th December, 1893.

- 1.—THE COMPRADES' CUP.—(Presented.) Value \$— For all China Ponies, *bona fide* grifflins at the date of entry. Weights as per scale. Winners 7lbs. extra, of 2 or more races 10lbs. extra. Previous non-starters 7lbs. extra. Entrance: 10.—One mile.

	st.	lbs.
Messrs. Rouge et Noir's bay <i>Roulette</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	5 1
Mr. Min's grey <i>Grey Beard</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	8 2
Major Clachnacuddin's grey <i>Santa Cruz</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	10	12 3
Baron Bunkum's bay <i>Joss</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	1 0
Time, 2mins. 21secs.		

- 2.—THE TOTALISATOR CUP.—Value \$150, with \$25 to the second and \$10 to the third Pony. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Grifflins at the date of entry allowed 7lbs. Winners at this Meeting 7lbs. extra. Entrance \$10.—One mile and three-quarters.

	st.	lbs.
Mr. August's bay <i>Aristocrat</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	11	1 1
General Wynnor's grey <i>Boldheart</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	1 2
Mr. Gamecock's grey <i>Shawnee</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	8 3
Baron Bunkum's grey <i>Woodman</i> (Mr. Baker).....	11	9 0
Time, 4mins. 6 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.		

- 3.—THE WINTER STAKES OF \$5 each, with \$50 added. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Grifflins at date of entry allowed 7lbs. Winners at this Meeting 10lbs. extra. — Three-quarters of a mile.

	st.	lbs.
Baron Bunkum's dun <i>Yarra</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	1 1
Mr. Cass's cream <i>Primrose</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	1 2
„ Ramsay's bay <i>Congo</i> (Mr. Ramsay).....	11	11 3
„ August's grey <i>Democrat</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	10	12 0
Time, 1min. 39secs.		

- 4.—THE HAKWAN CUP.—(Presented.) Value \$100. For all China Ponies, *bona fide* grifflins at the date of entry. Weights as per scale. Winners 10lbs. extra. Previous non-starters 10lbs. extra. Entrance \$5.—Once round.

	st.	lbs.
Mr. Min's grey <i>Grey Beard</i> (Mr. Baker).....	11	11 1
Major Clachnacuddin's <i>Santa Cruz</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	10	12 2
Baron Bunkum's <i>Joss</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	1 3
Mr. Ramsay's <i>Bullet</i> (Mr. Ramsay).....	11	7 0
Time, 1min. 26 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.		

- 5.—THE SUBSCRIPTION STAKES OF \$5 each, with \$50 added, divided 70, 20 and 10 per cent. to the first, second and third Ponies. For Foochow and Amoy Subscription Ponies. Weights as per scale. Winners at this or previous meetings 10lbs. extra.—Seven furlongs.

	st.	lbs.
Dr. Gardener's chestnut <i>Benjy</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	12	0 1
General Toptigin's dun <i>Pluto</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	11	11 2
Mr. Gamecock's chestnut <i>Musket</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	11 3
„ Min's grey <i>Kyleakin</i> (Mr. Baker).....	11	11 0
„ Ramsay's white <i>Strathmore</i> (Mr. Ramsay).....	11	11 0
Time, 2mins. 0 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.		
6.—THE FOOCHOW STAKES OF \$10 each, with \$50 added, divided 70, 10 and 10 per cent. to the first, second and third Ponies. A forced entry for all China Ponies entered at this Meeting, except those entered only for the Hacks, Subscription Stakes, and/or Cosmopolitan Cup. Weights as per scale.—One mile and a quarter.		

	st.	lbs.
Mr. August's bay <i>Aristocrat</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	11	1 1
„ Ramsay's white <i>Flashlight</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	1 2
General Wynnor's grey <i>Boldheart</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	1 3
Baron Bunkum's grey <i>Woodman</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	4 0
Time, 2mins. 51secs.		

- 7.—THE RACING STAKES OF \$5 each, with \$50 added, divided 70, 20 and 10 per cent. to the first, second and third Ponies. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Grifflins at date of entry allowed 7lbs. Winners at this Meeting 10lbs. extra.—Once round.

	st.	lbs.
Mr. August's grey <i>Democrat</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	10	12 1
„ Cass's cream <i>Primrose</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	1 2
„ Trebau's brown <i>Beeswing</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	11 3
„ Min's white <i>Snowstorm</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	1 0
Time, 1min. 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.		

THIRD DAY,

Thursday, 14th December.

- 1.—THE LEDGER CUP.—(Presented.) Value \$100. For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Winners 10lbs. extra. Entrance \$5.—Once round and a distance.

	st.	lbs.
Mr. August's grey <i>Democrat</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	11	8 1
„ Min's white <i>Snowstorm</i> (Mr. Baker).....	11	9 2
Baron Bunkum's grey <i>Woodman</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	4 3
Mr. Gamecock's grey <i>Shawnee</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	11 0
Time, 1min. 34 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.		

- 2.—THE CLIVE CUP.—Value \$100, with \$15 to the second Pony. For all China Ponies, *bona fide* grifflins at the date of entry. Weights as per scale. Winners 7lbs. extra, of two or more races 10lbs. extra. Entrance \$5.—One mile and a half.

	st.	lbs.
Messrs. Rouge et Noir's bay <i>Roulette</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	8 1
Mr. Min's grey <i>Grey Beard</i> (Mr. Baker).....	11	11 2
Baron Bunkum's bay <i>Joss</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	1 3
Time, 3min. 40secs.		

- 3.—THE LADIES' PURSE.—(Presented.) For all China Ponies. Weights as per scale. Grifflins at date of entry allowed 7lbs. Winners at this Meeting 7lbs. extra. Riders who have never won a race allowed 7lbs. Entrance \$5.—Once round.

	st.	lbs.
Mr. Trebau's brown <i>Beeswing</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	8 1
„ Ramsay's bay <i>Congo</i> (Mr. Ramsay).....	11	8 2
„ Cass's cream <i>Primrose</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	1 3
Baron Bunkum's dun <i>Yarra</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	8 0
Mr. Min's chestnut <i>Redcoat</i> (Mr. Baker).....	11	11 0
Time, 1min. 22 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.		

- 4.—THE MANCHU STAKES OF \$10 each, with \$50 added, divided 70, 20 and 10 per cent. to the first, second and third Ponies. For all *bona fide* beaten China Ponies that have never run previous to this Meeting. Weights as per scale.—One mile.

	st.	lbs.
Mr. Min's chestnut <i>Redcoat</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	10	12 1
Major Clachnacuddin's grey <i>Santa Cruz</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	10	12 2
Mr. Ramsay's grey <i>Bullet</i> (Mr. Ramsay).....	11	7 3
Baron Bunkum's bay <i>Joss</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	1 0
Time, 2min. 24 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.		

- 5.—THE CONSOLATION CUP.—Value \$100.—For all *bona fide* beaten China Ponies that have run at this Meeting. Weights as per scale. Entrance \$5.—One mile.

	st.	lbs.
Mr. Cass's cream <i>Primrose</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	1 1
Baron Bunkum's grey <i>Woodman</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	4 2
General Wynnor's grey <i>Boldheart</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	1 3
Mr. Min's white <i>Snowstorm</i> (Mr. Baker).....	11	10 0
Time, 2min. 24secs.		

- 6.—THE CHAMPION STAKES OF \$10 each, with \$50 added. A forced entry for and open only to winners at this Meeting, optional for the winners of the Hacks, Subscription Stakes, Manchu Stakes and Consolation Cup. Winners of two races at this meeting \$15 extra, of more than two races \$40 extra. Weights as per scale.—One mile and a quarter.

	st.	lbs.
Mr. Ramsay's bay <i>Congo</i> (Mr. Baker).....	11	9 1
„ August's bay <i>Aristocrat</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	11	1 2
„ Ramsay's white <i>Flashlight</i> (Mr. Sassoon).....	11	1 3
„ Gamecock's grey <i>Shawnee</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	1 0
„ August's grey <i>Democrat</i> (Mr. Jenkins).....	10	12 0
„ Trebau's brown <i>Beeswing</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	1 0
Time, 2min. 49secs.		

- 7.—THE COSMOPOLITAN CUP.—(Presented.) Value \$— For all China Ponies. Catch weights over 11st. 7lbs. Hacks and/or Foochow and Amoy Subscription Ponies allowed 7lbs. To be ridden by residents of this province and Officers of the Army and Navy. Entrance \$5. Three-quarters of a mile.

	st.	lbs.
Baron Bunkum's white <i>Autocrat</i> (Mr. Bartleet).....	11	0 1
General Toptigin's dun <i>Pluto</i> (Mr. Drummond).....	11	0 2
Dr. Gardener's chestnut <i>Benjy</i> (Mr. Ramsay).....	11	0 3
Mr. Gamecock's chestnut <i>Musket</i> (Mr. Oswald).....	11	0 0
Time, 1min. 44 $\frac{1}{2}$ secs.		

The following is the return of the winning riders and ponies.

Riders.	First.	Second.	Third.
Mr. Bartleet.....	3	2	5
„ Oswald.....	5	5	4
„ Sassoon.....	7	3	4
„ Baker.....	1	3	0
„ Ramsay.....	1	1	3
„ Drummond.....	4	7	5
Ponies.	First.	Second.	Third.
<i>Roulette</i>	3	1	0
<i>Beeswing</i>	2	0	1
<i>Shawnee</i>	1	0	1
<i>Grey Beard</i>	2	3	0
<i>Congo</i>	2	1	1
<i>Benjy</i>	2	0	1
<i>Flashlight</i>	1	1	1
<i>Aristocrat</i>	2	2	1
<i>Yarra</i>	1	0	1
<i>Democrat</i>	2	1	1
<i>Redcoat</i>	1	0	0
<i>Primrose</i>	1	3	2
<i>Autocrat</i>	1	1	0
<i>Snowstorm</i>	0	2	0
<i>Boldheart</i>	0	1	2
<i>Santa Cruz</i>	0	2	3
<i>Pluto</i>	0	2	1
<i>Woodman</i>	0	1	2
<i>Joss</i>	0	0	2
<i>Musket</i>	0	0	1

TO DARKEN GREY HAIR.—Lockyer's Sulphur Hair Restorer is the quickest, best, safest; costs less, effects more than any other. The colour produced is most natural. Lockyer's Sulphur is the only English Hair Restorer universally sold (3).

Correspondence.

DONATION TO CHINESE HOSPITAL, SHANTUNG ROAD.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Will you be good enough to allow me to acknowledge through your columns, the handsome donation of Tls. 500 to the funds of this hospital, received to-day from Mr. Thomas Hanbury.

Mr. Hanbury desires that this amount should be devoted to the general work of the Hospital, but more particularly to the increasing of the native medical staff.

I am, etc.,
CHAS. H. KING,
Hon. Treas. & Sec.

15th December.

A DONATION TO THE SEAMEN'S MISSION.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Kindly allow me through your columns to tender the thanks of the committee of the Seamen's Mission to Mr. T. Hanbury for his gift of \$50. We feel the more grateful as Mr. Hanbury had already spent all he intended to spend on Shanghai during his visit, before he was informed of the wants of the Seamen's Mission.

I am, etc.,
W. R. KAHLER,
Hon. Treasurer.

15th December.

THE JUBILEE LAUNCH.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to acknowledge in your columns the receipt of the following contributions to the "Missions to Seamen" steam-launch fund:—

Miss Stenhouse, Hampstead
Heath, England £12
Mrs. Newcomb, Auckland,
New Zealand..... £10

I am, etc.,
H. NEWCOMB,
Agent, Missions to Seamen.

19th December.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Will you kindly allow me to acknowledge in your columns the receipt, yesterday, of Tls. 50 from "A Friend," a contribution to the "Missions to Seamen" steam-launch fund.

I am, etc.,
H. NEWCOMB,
Agent, Missions to Seamen.

21st December.

"ACROSS THE WALNUTS AND THE WINE."

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—I claim your courtesy and decision with regard to the following very distressing incident. Last evening the somewhat *outré* subjects of *Hérons* and *Héronry* were touched upon, and the words themselves pertinaciously pronounced in all their orthographical crudity. Upon gentle remonstrance, (such being peculiarly jarring to a refined and sensitive ear,) I was scoffed at, and actually twitted with being a provincial.

Upon consulting with a gentleman whom heretofore I had considered more than ordinarily enlightened, I received the appalling reply, that the correct pronunciation was a sort of compromise betwixt "*Herruns* and *Herrings*." Apart from any pecuniary element being involved in the ques-

tion, I look to you, Sir, as an unbiassed arbiter of public destiny, not only to relieve me of this charge, but naturally as a gentleman to endorse my views.

In the meanwhile,
I am, etc.,
HERN.

15th December.

[After prolonged study of the authorities we have come to the conclusion that "*heron*" and "*heronry*," "*hern*" and "*hernry*," are all correct. In Latham's *Todd's Johnson*, it is stated: "*Héron*: commonly pronounced, and often spelt, *hern*." "*Héronry* [generally pronounced *hernry*]." Two authorities are given from the poets:

"So lords, with sport of stag and
heron full."

Sir P. Sidney.

"Let them on high the frightened
hern survey."

Gay.

Stoworth, and Cassell's *Encyclopaedic Dictionary* both decide for *heron* and *heronry*, though the latter gives *hern* as an alternative. Of later poets, Tom Hood writes:

"The moping *heron*, motionless and
stiff;"

While Tennyson in *The Brook* writes:

"I come from haunts of coot and *hern*,"
and makes the word rhyme to "*fern*."—Ed.]

THE DOUBTFUL CHARGE.

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Having read Mr. Hawks Pott's letter in your issue of 7th inst., I feel more surprised than ever that he should have made the statement to which Mr. Archibald has called his attention. I have been in China thirty-eight years, and have listened to many sermons in Chinese, delivered by a great variety of missionaries. During this long period I have not heard a missionary proclaim that Confucius is in hell except once, and that once was in Shanghai. I admit that that once was once too many; but it occurred about thirty-seven years ago, and I feel sure that some decades have passed since that good brother has repeated the proclamation. I have been working in Central China for thirty-three years, and I have never heard of any missionary giving utterance to any such sentiment. I think I may safely say that in these parts such language is never indulged in; on the contrary, whenever the name of Confucius is mentioned, it is done with the utmost respect.

When I read Mr. Hawks Pott's paper in the *Chinese Recorder*, my mind went back at once to the scene witnessed by me thirty-seven years ago, and I wondered whether his censure was based upon an existing state of things at Shanghai. I am glad to find that Mr. Hawks Pott's reply is reassuring on this point. He himself has never heard any missionary make the statement, and all he can say is that a distinguished missionary has told him that two Presbyterian missionaries and one Baptist missionary preach that the Sages of China are burning in hell. Here again it is all hearsay; and I confess to a grave doubt with regard to the whole charge. I should like to get the names of these three brothers, and hear what they have to say for themselves. Again and again have I found charges like these break down in the midst, and I am inclined to think that this would break down also if honestly inquired into.

But even if found true, the fact that three missionaries have been found guilty of the offence would not justify Mr. Pott in making a statement which really involves the missionaries pretty generally in the selfsame condemnation. Says Mr. Hawks Pott, "Some of them pour contempt and heap ridicule on things which are sacred to the Chinese. They shock the sensibilities of the Chinaman by proclaiming that Con-

fucius is in hell. This antagonistic attitude I believe has been the cause, far more than we generally suspect, of the anti-foreign riots that have recently occurred in China." That is a strong statement and Mr. Pott ought not to have made it without being very sure of his facts. To have made it on certain hearsay about two Presbyterian missionaries and one Baptist missionary, amounts to nothing short of inexcusable recklessness. And Mr. Pott appears to feel the weakness of the ground on which he stands, for he tries to fortify himself by quoting sentences from the missionary literature of the China Inland Mission, a literature published, he it observed, in English and not in Chinese. But what has this to do with the case in hand? Mr. Archibald asked for the names of the missionaries who shock the sensibilities of the Chinese by proclaiming that Confucius is in hell. Mr. Pott in reply mentions the fact that he has heard of two Presbyterians and one Baptist who are guilty of the misdemeanour, and then proceeds to discuss the theology of the Inland Mission, though unable to adduce the practice of even one Inland missionary in proof of his charge! This won't do. Mr. Pott's defence lacks in objectivity. He is equally at fault in speaking of the riots as having been largely caused by the antagonistic attitude of the missionaries. Had he been better versed in the anti-foreign literature of Hunan, and had he come into closer contact with the Chinese mind in the parts where the recent riots have taken place, he would have known better, and written more discriminately.

The charge against the missionaries has often been made. Like Banquo's Ghost, "it will not down." Let us hope, however, that it is now laid, and that it will trouble us no more. Let us hope also that the missionaries who feel it to be their duty to criticise their brethren will pay respect to the times and seasons. The eyes of our enemies are upon us, and nothing would delight them more than to be able to condemn us from our own mouth. We are passing through a great crisis, and it behoves us all to be very careful as to how we work, and as to how we speak and write of each other's work.

I am, etc.,

GRIFFITH JOHN.

Hankow, 12th December.

[We think that this letter may well close this discussion.—Ed.]

SETTLEMENT OF THE AIGUES-MORTES RIOTS.

To the Editor of the
NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Reuter has made a mistake in stating that the Italian Government is going to indemnify the relatives of the French victims of the riots in Naples, Rome, and Genoa. There can be no such indemnity as no such claim exists: not only was no Frenchman killed in Italy during the popular disturbances, but no Frenchman was even wounded or assaulted. Popular indignation showed itself only in meetings and demonstrations against the unprovoked massacre of Aigues-Mortes, which was energetically stigmatised by all right-minded Frenchmen, even by those most hostile to Italy, such as the writers of the *Figaro*. It is true, that, as happens in such cases, the crowd, not satisfied with expressing their feelings of just indignation, also committed regrettable acts of violence on French official buildings, but the Italian Government gave at once prompt satisfaction for such offences—even before the French Government had time to complain.

I am, etc.,

CENOTRIA.

19th December.

Miscellaneous.

DISTRIBUTION OF VOLUNTEER PRIZES.

On Tuesday afternoon a numerous company assembled in the Masonic Hall to witness the distribution of prizes to the successful competitors at the Autumn Rifle Meeting. The hall was tastefully decorated with flowers, flags, and trophies, arranged by Sergeant Dallas, of the Engineers, and Private Gould, of "B" Company, whilst a lively selection by the Band added to the gaiety of the surroundings. Mr. Scott, the Chairman of the Municipal Council, as Civil Commandant of the Corps, occupied the Chair, having on his immediate right Mrs. Wetmore, who distributed the prizes, next to her being her husband.

The Chairman opened the proceedings by announcing that Mrs. Wetmore had consented to hand the prizes to the fortunate competitors. Their very best thanks were due to her for consenting to undertake the duty. She had lived amongst them for many years, and they were doubly pleased to welcome her as the wife of one of the earliest of the Volunteers and fellow-residents. He (the Chairman) would only say, in complimenting those who had won the prizes that he thought they might be called the backbone of the force, and if the occasion should arise they might be counted upon to make continuous bulwarks upon the force to which they might be opposed. (Hear, hear).

Mrs. Wetmore then handed the prizes to the winners. The winners of the first and second Ladies' prizes were loudly cheered, and with a few well-chosen sentences they handed the prizes they had won to the ladies whom they had represented. Captain Wasserfall, as he led his team from the German Company to receive the prize for volley-firing was also heartily greeted. At the conclusion of the distribution Captain Brodie Clarke handed a very handsome bouquet to Mrs. Wetmore.

Captain Lunning in proposing a vote of thanks to the ladies for their attendance, and particularly to Mrs. Wetmore for presenting the prizes, said the Shanghai Volunteer Corps was indebted to the ladies in many ways. The ladies liberally subscribed to prizes which were competed for more keenly than any others on the list, and they graced with their presence the gatherings of the Corps. He might mention that he hoped at the next training to be able to present to the community a nice little Company of new Volunteers, numbering some 20 or 25 files, and he hoped by that time they would be able to turn out and drill without being ashamed of themselves, even in front of the German Company, of whom they were all so proud (cheers). The new Company he alluded to was composed of boys who were learning their drill, and he was quite sure that would be one additional link between the Volunteers and the ladies—all these years they had had sweethearts and husbands in the Corps, now they could have children (cheers). He asked them to give "three cheers for the ladies." (The cheers were heartily given, accompanied by a "tiger.")

Lieut. Wedemeyer, in the course of a humorous little speech, responded on behalf of the ladies.

Captain Brodie Clarke proposed a vote of thanks to the visitors for the interest they had evinced in the Volunteers by their attendance that afternoon, coupling with it the name of Captain Norcock, of H.M.S. *Caroline*.

Captain Norcock, in response, expressed on behalf of the visitors and himself their pleasure at being asked to participate in such a ceremony. He congratulated the community upon possessing such an efficient body of Volunteers, and assured them of the co-operation of the Navy whenever required, in either peace or war.

Surgeon-Major Henderson proposed a vote of thanks to the Chairman, which being carried and duly acknowledged brought the proceedings to a close.

PRIZE LIST.

- 1.—Gunner Kelly. (Artillery.)
1st Municipal Challenge Cup.
" Battalion Prize.
- 2.—Driver Bourke. (Artillery.)
1st Morrison Challenge Trophy.
3rd Municipal Cup.
" Grand Aggregate.
- 3.—Corporal Wilson. (Artillery.)
1st Grand Aggregate (Gold Cross.)
2nd Ladies' Prize.
" Morrison Challenge Trophy.
- 4.—Captain Wasserfall. (German Co.)
1st Volley Firing Prize.
- 5.—Gunner Horley. (Artillery.)
2nd Concordia Cup.
" Municipal Challenge Cup.
Extra 1st Municipal Challenge Cup, as winner in 1892 (Presented by the Council).
- 6.—Private Burtenshaw. ("B" Co.)
2nd Battalion Prize.
Extra 1st Morrison Challenge, as winner in Spring 1893.
- 7.—Corporal Brooks. ("B" Co.)
3rd Morrison Challenge Trophy.
4th Grand Aggregate.
1st Consolation Aggregate.
- 8.—Sergeant Peace. ("B" Co.)
3rd Exchange Plate.
2nd Grand Aggregate.
- 9.—Gunner McDonald. (Artillery.)
2nd Exchange Plate.
3rd Carbine Prize.
- 10.—Private Bonnell. ("B" Co.)
1st Exchange Plate.
- 11.—Bomb. Crank. (Artillery.)
1st Ladies' Prize.
- 12.—Private Twigg. ("B" Co.)
1st Concordia Cup.
- 13.—Sergt. Haskell. (Engineers.)
1st Carbine Prize.
- 14.—Private Stallberg. (German Co.)
3rd Ladies' Prize.
" Concordia Cup.
- 15.—Lieut. Rex. (Artillery.)
2nd Carbine Prize.
- 16.—Engineer Atkinson. (Engineers.)
1st Griffin's Aggregate.
4th Concordia Cup.
- 17.—Sergt. MacDonald. (Artillery.)
1st Service Cup.
- 18.—Private Timm. ("A" Co.)
2nd Consolation Aggregate.
- 19.—Gunner Loader. (Artillery.)
4th Battalion Prize.
2nd Griffin's Aggregate.
- 20.—Gunner Champion. (Artillery.)
3rd Battalion Prize.
- 21.—Gunner Batty. (Artillery.)
3rd Griffin's Aggregate.
4th Exchange Plate.
- 22.—Private Bowman. ("B" Co.)
3rd Consolation Aggregate.
- 23.—Lieut. Trueman. ("B" Co.)
4th Consolation Aggregate.
- 24.—Private Roberts. ("B" Co.)
5th Consolation Aggregate.
- 25.—Gunner Ross. (Artillery.)
6th Consolation Aggregate.
- 26.—Private Olsen. ("B" Co.)
7th Consolation Aggregate.
- 27.—Driver Champion. (Artillery.)
4th Morrison Challenge Trophy.
- 28.—Gunner Culshaw. (Artillery.)
4th Carbine Prize.
- 29.—Private Rohde. (German Co.)
4th Griffin's Aggregate.

TO OVERCOME WEAKNESS. — Pepper's Quinine and Iron Tonic gives New Life, Appetite, Health, Strength, Energy. Cures Neuralgia, Indigestion, Nerve Debility. Specially useful in hot, depressing climates or malarious districts. Everyone should keep up strength by taking Pepper's Quinine, the world-known English Tonic. Bottles everywhere. (1)

A HOTEL-KEEPER'S BARBARITY AND A COMPRADORE'S HUMANITY.

We publish the following exactly as it reached us on Friday, although the writer unfortunately forgot to sign it:—

To the Editor of the

NORTH-CHINA DAILY NEWS.

SIR,—Please allow us to insert in your columns the following account expressed by us, passengers of s.s. *Chungking*:—

That we all staying at Chuen Yuan hotel at Tientsin and waiting for arrivals of steamer coming from south were hurried into packing up our luggage to go down to Taku to catch s.s. *Chungking* lying there at that time by the owner Lam Hin-tong and the employé Ou Sheu-wen of the said hotel on the plea that no more steamer would come in port. To the conclusion of our belief, we lost no time to gather our things to embark a cargo-boat, prepared for us then. When we passed the wharf the steamer *Esang* known to be a Canton steamer was seen lying alongside, so that we wanted our things removed on board the steamer but refused by the hotel runners pretending to say that the steamer was not going to Canton; therefore we were obliged to stay in the boat exposing to the winds and rain, chilled with cold and fatigued by hunger and suffered great hardships during the two days' and a night's voyage. All our luggage got soaked and the clothes we were wearing were drenched. Oh, why such owners and employes of Chuen Yuan Hotel have to treat their logers so unfriendly is a question unexplained. Fortunately we were greatly indebted to the hospitality of Mr. Chan-tze-po, compradore of s.s. *Chungking*, who seeing us in a wretched condition so cordially and benevolently showed his kindness as to pay for the rice made in congee to relieve our hunger, out of his own pocket. A man who in such imminent position, entirely precluded from buying food was thus given a grateful meal, as it may be called, cannot help uttering thousands of thankfulness. We all full that such deeds as so generously done by Mr. Chan give no comparison in any length of time. From this we have reason to hope that the passenger traffic of s.s. *Chungking* will increase rapidly enviable to the eyes of Lam and Ou of Chuen Yuan hotel and how shameful Lam would be when he is told of Mr. Chan's acts towards his passengers.

THE SUNGPU CASE FROM THE INSIDE.

II.

MR. BOCK'S FIRST VISIT.

It would appear from these despatches that Consul-General Bock, on his first visit to Hankow, did not succeed in impressing the official mind with any idea that he was an important factor in the case. His name is seldom mentioned, and never in such a way as to show they anticipated any difficulty could arise in that quarter. On page 31 we find the Taotai acknowledging a letter from the Viceroy, in which he is informed that the Consuls, Messrs. Bock and Thyen, intend bringing Missionary Lund along with them—as interpreter—to their interview with him, and that this must be stopped. Whereupon the Taotai proceeds to stop it accordingly, by a letter to Consul Thyen in which he says that as the two Consuls come on public business they will be duly received by the Viceroy, but the missionary not being an official there was no precedent for receiving him. As to interpreters, the Viceroy had his own and would permit no other to be used, therefore they must not bring the missionary as he certainly would not be admitted. This appears to have been His Excellency's touchstone, by which he intended to ascertain the kind

of stuff the Consul-General was made of; and he, by giving up his undoubted right to an interpreter of his own, in his anxiety to be conciliatory, practically gave himself and his case away before he entered the *yamen's* door. There was a somewhat amusing sequel to this affair. On the previous day the Consul-General had had an interview with the Taotai, when the oldest and most respected member of the missionary body at Hankow acted as interpreter, to the perfect satisfaction of all parties. But no sooner was the Viceroy found to object to missionary interpreters than the Taotai felt that some protest was due from him also, so after calling his chair and retinue he hastened down to the British Consulate to complain, much to the astonishment of Her Majesty's representative, of the insult which had been done him by intruding an English missionary on his presence!

THE COURT OF ENQUIRY.

On page 33 we have the report of the court of enquiry held at Sungpu under the presidency of Li Taotai. It is written by the Huangchow *Fu*, and considering its length—over three thousand characters—it is a very remarkable document, inasmuch as it does not contain a word which throws any fresh light on the outrage. The problem the court was commissioned to solve was how it came about that two innocent and inoffensive men came to be brutally murdered at noon-day in the presence of thousands of onlookers, and who were the persons who did it. The Viceroy, the Governor, and the Provincial Judge, are all alike agreed that this was the task set before them. As to who did it, the report frankly states, page 36, that the court does not know, and as to why it was done, we have simply a repetition of all the Macheng *hsien* had already said about it. The conduct of that magistrate is painted in even more favourable colours than he had ventured to do it himself, and his Sungpu subordinate is represented as equally worthy of all praise. We find that during the riot he went and urged the missionaries to retreat to his *yamen*—a little item which he seems to have been too modest to put on record himself—but as usual the missionaries obstinately refused to take advice. On the other hand, the court finds the conduct of the missionaries was even more outrageous than the Macheng *hsien* had dared to report, for they not only seized and bound four men, and led the people to believe they had killed them, but they actually made their cook soak cotton in kerosene and fire the house, which unreasonable proceeding resulted in the final catastrophe. However, as they were instructed to seize criminals, they state they have picked up four men, and one, Li Kia-chung, who had been denounced by the foreigners, and as the weather is warm and their quarters narrow they are adjourning to Huangchow. From this report it is interesting to note how the Chinese officials stand by each other through thick and thin. The Macheng *hsien* might have written the document himself—possibly he did so—so thoroughly does it support all his statements. There is not a word though of how the court harried Sungpu, and the reign of terror they established there—official documents will be searched in vain for that.

ESCORTING THE PRISONERS.

In the next, also from the pen of the Huangchow *Fu*, we have an account of how they escorted their prisoners from Sungpu to Huangchow, in which we find that Li Kia-chung was conducted by a separate route from the rest, a long roundabout way *via* Macheng city, for the curious reason that they wished to avoid his native village, and to "give peace to his heart."

BLAMING THE MISSIONARIES' FRIENDS.

On page 43 we have still another from the same court of enquiry, in which we are

told that they have now discovered the reason why the foreigners continued to loiter about Hokiapu till they brought a great catastrophe on themselves. It was entirely due to the action of the traitorous natives Liu Tze-han, Yang Ching-chen, and others, who enticed them to remain, and filled their minds with noxious delusions. On account of their immoral relations with a number of women these natives did not wish to leave the place, so when the Macheng *hsien* sent to invite the missionaries to retire to the city, these traitors would not permit them to go. They also assisted the foreigners in binding the four men, and in creating the disturbance. They afterwards ran away and took refuge in the foreign Concession at Hankow, taking with them the missionaries' clothes, goods, and cash. There being no doubt at all that these men, six in number, are the primary cause of the calamity, and that they took their masters' things, besides being natives who know all about the affair, they must be at once arrested. But as it would not be convenient to send runners on to the foreign street to seize them, they beg that the Swedish Consul be directed to hand them over to the Taotai who will forward them to Huangchow where the court will attend to them. The Taotai directs the Swedish Consul accordingly, but as nothing seems to have come of it, we find a week or so after another despatch, this time from the Viceroy. He tells us in the lucid, calm, convincing way in which he handles all subjects, that many criminals have been seized—(only three, and these doubtful), but being without eye-witnesses (it is said there were ten thousand eye-witnesses) and having only indirect evidence, it is difficult for the authorities to pronounce sentence. As from the beginning to the end of the matter these six men were with the foreign missionaries, what they saw and heard can be depended on, therefore they must be brought forward to give evidence; otherwise not only will it be difficult to settle the case, but other troubles will surely arise, hence, as before, the Swedish Consul is directed to produce them. Of five days' later date is another despatch to the same effect from the Governor. In reply Consul Thyen states that he has referred the matter to the Consul-General in Shanghai, but what he had to say about it does not appear. The incident is closed by a note from Consul Thyen stating that he has gone to Shanghai himself on public business. Thus the six refugees, fortunately for them, were never produced, and the matter is not again mentioned.

THE PROVINCIAL JUDGE

gives us a couple of interesting despatches, from the first of which, page 44, we learn that a certain gentleman called Kung the cat—more commonly Kung three cats—who was accused of being a leader in the affair, had been seized by the Macheng *hsien's* runners in a mountain hamlet, but some of his friends had come and effected a rescue, so the Judge exhorts them to use diligence in getting hold of him again. As we know from other sources that this man was one of Li Kia-chung's professionals, we would have been glad had the Judge's advice been followed out, but it was not. Next, on page 50, he given us a petition which Mrs. Hsu, the wife of one of the three condemned prisoners, presented on behalf of her husband. She tells us that he had certainly nothing to do with the riot against the foreigners for they lived at a distance of over ten li from Hokiapu, at the other side of a big river. On the fatal 18th, her husband was at home with his friends, as all the people in the village can bear witness. Moreover, in pursuit of his business as a pedlar he was often at Hankow, Shasze, and other places, seeing foreigners constantly, and why should he go tramping off to see them again, to say nothing of turning

a murderer, especially as he was not one of those who were stupidly ignorant of the affairs of Wusueh and Ichang. Mrs. Hsu's account of her efforts to get her husband bailed out at Macheng; of the distress and sickness of his old father; of the poverty and helplessness of the family; and of her journey to Huangchow, etc., where she wept and cried but Heaven would not hear; is all very touching; as is also the fact that it was undertaken, petition and all, entirely in vain. Little Mr. Hsu, the pedlar's name, still stands second on the list of the condemned three, for Li Taotai and Co., had to provide a certain number of native heads, in case it became necessary to have them, to peddle off against the lives taken at Sungpu, and his would help to fill a basket as well as another's.

A GLEAM OF INTELLIGENCE.

Of all the officials concerned, the Governor seems to have been the only one to have doubts whether justice was being done in the case, and these he expresses in a despatch, page 45, addressed to the Huangchow *Fu*. He finds that there are considerable discrepancies between the evidence as first given and that brought forward afterwards, and questions if the binding of the four men was the real cause of the riot. He points out that the Macheng *hsien* formerly petitioned that the four men were taken out by the back door and despatched to the city, but now he says it was from the front door. But how could four men be taken secretly out of a front door, and along a street full of people without being seen? And if seen, how could doubts as to the disappearance of these men cause a riot? Also, in the evidence of Ho Yung-fung it is stated that Ho the policeman was so seriously wounded that he was carried on a bamboo bed by the great road to the city to be examined, but Ho the policeman himself says that he walked there carrying a foreigner's card and escorting four men. If then, at that time, Ho the policeman was so seriously injured with a stone as to be lying and soaking the ground with his blood to such an extent that the people all supposed it was the blood of four men the foreigners had killed, how came he to be able to tramp to the city, a distance of sixty li, escorting his prisoners? But these are conundrums which receive no answer in these despatches. H.E. the Governor evidently has serious doubts about the whole business, and advises further examination of the prisoners, including Li Kia-chung. He says that yesterday—the 2nd of the 7th moon apparently—a telegram had been received from the Tsungli Yamen to the effect that the case was to be decided according to the evidence of both parties, natives and foreigners, and an opportunity must be provided for its mutual discussion, for if one side only gets a hearing, it will be difficult to get the foreigners to submit to the decision. This very sensible telegram was fated to produce some surprising results which the august *yamen* which despatched it never contemplated. It helped to lead three worthy magistrates into a very serious scrape, which again called forth from the Viceroy a set of regulations for such cases of a totally different complexion, as we shall now see.

THE PRISON INTERVIEW.

On page 51 we have a despatch from the Viceroy which is in some respects the most remarkable in the whole collection. It seems that a deputy in the Taotai's *yamen* at Hankow named Cheng, who had been Li Taotai's colleague in the trial at Sungpu, and was thus on intimate terms with the Macheng *hsien*, had received a letter from him dated from Huangchow on the 29th of the eighth month, which letter contained some astonishing news. Although it seems to have been a private and friendly epistle, Mr. Cheng must make its contents known to the Taotai who hastened to lay the information before the Viceroy, and he in

turn gives us a long comment on the same, which is of very special interest. The Machéng hsien has to tell his friend how two foreigners named Chi and Lu had turned up that day at Huangchow, accompanied by two secretaries, and a servant, and the Huangkang hsien hearing of their arrival had sent runners, chairs, and an official named Lu to escort them to his yamen. There they were feasted on the finest delicacies and the most fragrant wine, and during the feast they discussed the Sungpu case, when Mr. Lu argued with them most vigorously. As they wished to enter the prison, and see the criminals, he requested instructions from the prefect, who was unwilling to grant this will liberty, but in case the foreigners should be displeased, and go and say that the authorities had a great number of persons wrongfully imprisoned there, Mr. Lu was ordered to conduct them privately into both the goals of the prefect and the district magistrate, and to point out the criminals and witnesses. These all answered the questions asked them in strict accordance with their former evidence, and Li Kao-pa, in their presence, admitted that he had beaten the murdered missionaries, and did not seek to deny it. These things the foreigners, item by item, entered in a book, and in the afternoon they were escorted as before back to where they came from. So far the Machéng hsien.

THE VICEROY DISAPPROVES.

The three officials concerned had evidently got the Tsungli Yamén telegram in mind, so he writes as if they were of opinion that they had done a good stroke of business that day. But not so thought the Taotai, as he proceeds to explain to the Viceroy. He says that in the case of the murder of the Swedish missionaries, His Excellency had been pleased to depute the settlement of it to Li Taotai, who had, in conjunction with the Huangchow Fu, taken the leading criminals and important witnesses to that city to await further examination. He observes that Messrs. Chi and Lu, the one an English and the other a Swedish missionary, are in no sense officials, and according to the regulations are not permitted to have anything to do with public business. Granting that this case concerns missionaries, what they ought to have done was to petition their Consul, who would have informed him, the Taotai, and he would have requested H.E.'s instructions. But instead, accompanied by native Christians, they had secretly made their way to Huangchow, and entered the prisons to search and spy to their hearts' content. He has further heard that their intention in interrogating the important witnesses, and one called "Nine Eggs," was to discover if they had been tortured or not. They also procured clothes and bedding which they gave to the said "Nine Eggs" and company to make a show of their pity and kindness, but it was all really designed to hinder the administration of justice. This makes it difficult to secure a secrecy sufficient to prevent news leaking through, and may lead to an upsetting of the evidence. He, the Taotai, considers that this is

MOST EXTRAORDINARY,

for the prefect and the district magistrates certainly ought to have known that the prisons must be kept private, and yet they neither sought to hinder these foreigners by reasonable methods, nor did they ask for instructions, but ordered the official Lu to take them into both prisons, to show them the criminals and witnesses, and let them investigate and interrogate as they pleased, all of which he begs to observe was "the very height of stupidity and irregularity. When the Swedish Consul-General, Mr. Bock, came to Hankow they had come to an agreement together that when the criminals had been caught and the case tried, he would on no account permit a missionary to have to do with it, but would send a native named Tséng to settle it, and now when the case had been

tried and H.E. was on the eve of sending another deputy to give it a rehearing, and to have Mr. Bock requested to send on Mr. Tséng with all speed, to go to Huangchow and see the sentence carried out, and so conclude the matter at an early date, the prefect and the two district magistrates had admitted foreigners into the prisons. Surely since the beginning of intercourse with foreigners there never was the like! Hereafter in similar cases, in each place, the foreigners will copy these proceedings and thus the injury inflicted on important matters will be extreme. As these circumstances had come to his knowledge he could not but make them know to H.E. with the object of consulting what rebuke is to be administered, and what action taken.

THE FOREIGNER'S POSITION.

In reply to the above the Viceroy says, page 53, and, bearing in mind the Tsungli Yamén's telegram, this is the most important part of the despatch—"In searching into the cases which have arisen from intercourse between Chinese and foreigners I find that, while the case is still undecided, whatever searching for criminals, asking of evidence, pronouncing of sentences there may be, no foreigner is on any account allowed to interfere; and even when the case is clearly settled the Consul only is allowed to stand on one side and see the decision, but on no account is he permitted to open his mouth. Several months ago Consul Thyen asked to be informed of the names of the criminals and of the evidence against them, but I instructed the Taotai to expose his error, and to absolutely refuse, whereupon that Consul had nothing more to say. This is the fixed regulation for the trial of such cases, and the established line of division between Chinese and foreigners. How then can these be permitted to enter the goals and see the prisoners? and they not foreign officials even, but the prosecutors in the case!"

DIGNITY AND IMPUDENCE.

It will be seen that H.E. takes very high ground indeed. Here we have the poor order barbarians not permitted to have the slightest say in matters which most seriously concern themselves, so hopelessly stupid are they; while unerring wisdom and absolute justice in the person of the Chinese mandarin—Li Taotai to wit—settle the case for them, in the presence of the barbarian chief who stands aside speechless with awe. We could really like to know what is the date of the book H.E. takes his regulations from, and if the Tsungli Yamén is possessed of a copy.

MORE REBUKES.

The Viceroy then goes on to take the magistrates concerned to task in terms similar to those employed by the Taotai. He considers that while the foreigners acted in a way which was not in accordance with the regulations or in harmony with the Treaties, their proceedings were irregular and ridiculous beyond all comparison and likely to result in other bothers arising which might damage the case beyond all repair. He therefore directs that the proper Boards be instructed, and meanwhile that each of the three magistrates be posted as guilty of a grave indiscretion. Further, in the event of their taking matters into their own hands in a similar fashion again, they will be dismissed the public service in disgrace. He then directs that Yu Taotai shall go at once to Huangchow and rehear the case, while Consul-General Bock must be written to to send on his interpreter, Tséng, with all haste. And so this remarkable document closes, the Governor agreeing with all the arrangements in a separate rescript. The Taotai too has a line to express his immense surprise at the stupidities and irregularities of the Huangchow Fu and Co. in this business. We certainly think they might have been a little more prudent with their prisoners; but it will now be their turn to express

surprise at the stupidity and carelessness of the Taotai in exhibiting his despatches which might have been so much more easily kept dark.

Five pages—57-62—are occupied with the Coroner's account of his inquest on the bodies, which is best left untranslated. It is simply harrowing to read how Mr. Wikholm was despatched with six mortal and about fifty other wounds; and Mr. Johansson with the same number of mortal wounds and about twenty others, inflicted with iron implements, wooden implements, stones, bricks, and tiles, as if they had been two mad dogs. Still more saddening is the material which comes after, in the shape of the evidence of the witnesses and the finding of the court. It exhibits the existence of a spirit of wickedness in high places such as may well make China's best friends despair. What to foreigners has been a tragedy of unequalled pitifulness is seen to have been to the officials concerned in it one of the rarest of comedies. Li Kao-pa is to lose his life, nominally because he attacked both foreigners with a stick, but really because he is next door to an idiot. Hsu, the pedlar, and Li, the country lad, are to be executed, nominally because the foreigners attacked them while engaged in helping to extinguish a fire, but really because they are small and insignificant persons who will never be missed. It is just such another joke as that they perpetrated a few years ago when they brought forward the monkeys of the Ichang gorges as the much-to-be-feared and unconquerable enemies of steam navigation, only there is too much blood about this one for foreigners to appreciate it.

The three last despatches, pages 72-73, are concerned with Consul-General Bock, and until he has finished his task of settling the case nothing need be said about them. It is no easy matter which he has got in hand to deal with. There are some stains which cannot be washed out even with silver, and if he takes money to condone this outrage there are not a few who will rise up and condemn him. If he takes lives, then it will be the lives of presumably innocent persons who have been convicted on evidence which also proves that the murdered men were openly and grossly immoral, to the extent of being a proverb and byword throughout the whole region. Thus if he accepts the evidence as true with respect to the so-called criminals, he also pronounces those whom we call martyrs to have been the vilest of the vile. If he accepts the promised degradation of officials he will probably see them before long in higher office, and with greater influence than ever before. The problem is one which is well fitted to make thoughtful men despair. There seems to be only one door of hope, and that is to have the whole matter enquired into by officials who are entirely independent of H.E. Chang Chih-tung. If the real truth could be brought to light, and fully established it would be easier to say what the next step should be.

KUANGSI.

II.

During the present year rapid progress has been made with the Phulangthung-Langson Railway and the same energy being shown, July 1894 should see the line open for traffic to Langson, with the extension to Nasham at the head of the present navigation on the Sungki River, 13 miles from Langson, and within a full day (down stream) of Lungchow.

It is intended to grant free transit for all goods entering Tongking and destined for Lungchow, and a French firm will be prepared to quote through rates to Nasham if not to Lungchow itself, on all cargo from Hongkong. MM. Marty and d'Abbadie, a pushing Tongking firm, will certainly do all they can to secure custom and divert goods from the Pakhoi line.

The present able head of the Indo-China Customs, M. Coqui, is fully alive to the necessity of giving every advantage to China-bound merchandise in the early days of this route, which it must be borne in mind, is not so much created because demanded but because the many burdensome uncertain taxes levied by the Kuang-sung officials drive Kuangsi trade from the West River to less direct and overland routes.

The pirates on the Tongking-China border have not yet been effectually put down; occasional *rencontres* between them and the Tongking forces still take place. Where booty is to be had these gentry can still gather in force and give much trouble. Local traders from Lungchow bound over the frontier still pay blackmail to no light amount; any check from such a cause in the early days of trade by this route, will be fatal to a rapid success.

A fair time to allow for goods to reach Nanning, *via* Tongking and Lungchow, would be 15 days; *via* Pakhoi, 16 days, but the Tongking route would be the cheaper and no trouble and expense of re-packing for land portage need be incurred; *via* Canton at present 28 days. Now where days are not of much importance to the inland trader—and further, Chinese are slow to move on new lines unless undoubted profit offers—the expense of closing houses in Pakhoi, Kinchow, etc., and making new arrangements *via* Tongking, Langson, and Lungchow will be considerable; still it may be taken as fairly certain—the position relative to the West River remaining as it now is—that the Tongking route will be used sooner or later with facilities granted and hindrances removed as just stated.

What then must China do and that quickly to retain this trade within her own borders, and the British merchant and shipowner to secure the custom of the Chinese? The year 1891 witnessed a remarkable change in Kuangsi-bound merchandise; while matches and oil still went inwards from Pakhoi under transit passes, Pakhoi imported less piece-goods and yarn, and large amounts of these went forward by the West River as did also oil and matches.

This was caused we learn by a new tax having been laid on Pakhoi-borne goods, which the merchants resisted; the employment of launches for towing junks up the West River en route to Wuchow, and no hindrance being placed by the authorities on the rights of the transit passes. Canton merchants prospered; alas, the provincial authorities interfered; this flourishing transit trade was hindered in every way, till from an issue of 1,946 passes in 1891 on goods valued at Hk. Tls. 1,741,864, the numbers fell to 492 passes on goods valued at Hk. Tls. 406,696 in 1892, and 2 only on goods worth Hk. Tls. 45 up to the end of the September quarter of the present year!

The map to illustrate the transit trade of Canton, supplied with the Canton decennial report, forcibly shows the large trade Canton can do with the towns of Kuangsi, and, by the good river connections, with Kueichow and Yunnan. The supply in 1891 from Canton was far in excess of Pakhoi and Canton together in 1890. We surely learn that markets which Pakhoi-Nanning were supplying can do better when facilities by the West River are offered them; this route can hold its own both against a Pakhoi or a Tongking route.

Let the West River be open to steamer navigation to Wuchow. The river presents no difficulty so far; with plenty of water, it would, I am inclined to think, be navigable for light draught steamboats up to Hsiachow and beyond; the chief rapid Fupo or Talung'an, between Hengchow and Kueihien had seven feet of water, clear of the rocks below, according to my river pilot, and so with those above Wuchow; the current over the Fupot'an was not at

all strong and there were no whirls, though above Wuchow, where the river is narrower, the current was swifter and in places there were considerable eddies, but only at one place between Pingnan and Mengkong was there any difficulty. I saw nothing which would equal the difficulty of the Upper Yangtze navigation, as pictured from written accounts; however, a survey of the river would settle this question.

As a river offers every advantage for the erection of barriers, levying of imposts, and harassing of river-borne trade, it is of the first importance that an arrangement should be come to with the Peking government as to the transit pass question, which has been agitating Canton and Hongkong for some time past: given an equitable settlement of this question and steamer navigation to Wuchow, then the opening of the river beyond to the foreign flag, by chartered junks such as now ply on the Upper Yangtze between Ichang and Chungking, may await a demand for increased facilities for trade before being urged.

In the settlement of this transit pass question, the Tongking merchant should be as interested as the Canton ones; if foreign goods to any extent reach Lungchow and demand the protection of the transit pass, will such be accorded them? Kuangsi is subject to the Governor-General at Canton, and the needs of the frontier troops and defences swallow up large sums of money, which taxation must supply equally at Lungchow as at Canton. If no French merchant resides at Lungchow, well and good, the question becomes largely a Chinese one, and the Consul cannot press the claim of the Chinese merchant, but with the residence of the foreign merchant the question at once arises for decision.

The demands of the purse are imperious, provincial as Imperial; the internal trade in foreign goods can well stand an equitable and fixed tax (*vide* Trade Reports *passim*); and if an arrangement could be agreed upon and put into operation whereby—as in the case of foreign opium—a *likin* could be collected on all inland bound goods by the Central Customs at Canton or Wuchow, there is no reason to doubt but that the West River route would rise into rapid favour, and to whatever extent Nanning was supplied from Tongking (which we venture to think would not be considerable) the country to the east of the Yuchiang and north of the West River, with part of the Kueichow province, would certainly be supplied from Canton.

Kuangsi must surely be opened up to West River traffic before any important steps be taken to examine into and attempts be made to develop her mineral resources; for the one there is already a real need, the latter can well afford to wait.

A. H. H.

MOUNT OMI AND BEYOND.

峨眉山

A RECORD OF A JOURNEY ON THE TIBETAN BORDER:

BY ARCHD. J. LITTLE, F.R.G.S.

XXVI.

Saturday, 24th September.—The city of Nanchi is built upon the only piece of flat ground we had yet seen, its well-preserved crenelated walls running straight along the low river bank, behind which projected the curling roofs of many fine temples,—some with red, some with black and white walls, but all with the elaborate roofs loaded with coloured figures and involved scroll-work, so characteristic of Szechuan exuberance. The gates were adorned with two-storied pavilions, and wide stone staircases led down to the water side. It continued to pour throughout the night; the mat roof leaked and

my bed was soaked and the thermometer fell to 66 degrees as we cast off at early dawn, the black outline of the towers and battlements massed against a half-lit gleaming grey sky. Soon, as the morning coal fires came to be lit, columns of thick yellow smoke ascended on all sides from the sulphurous coal-and, mingling with the river haze, quickly enveloped the town, obliterating the fine etching pictured to us at the start. We coasted along a fine, lofty range on the right bank, running E.N.E. and W.S.W., sloping steeply down to the water, its crimson flanks covered with fine woods, bamboo groves, and bare patches whence the *kaoliang* (tall millet) had just been reaped,—its summit hidden in the clouds. At 8.30, we passed the celebrated rapid and dreaded whirl-pool of Ngaukantse, situated a little above the small town of Kuatantse, on the right bank of the river. After this we continued under a high range of steep conical hills on the right bank, about 1,000 feet, and past grand walls of red rock with rich wooded *talus* running down to the water; passed rafts of fine bamboos drifting down with large crews of men housed in a shed built amidst ships, and steered with sweeps of bamboo, their blades constructed of split bamboo woven into a flat surface. At Nachihien, a busy city on the right bank, we tied up in the rain, our *huda* and our Boy going ashore to purchase sugar, for which this is a great mart. The city boasts a number of temples with red walls and roofs of heavy green and yellow tiles, also an elegant hexagonal pagoda, the Chinese improvement, and a vast improvement it is, on the Indian pattern that prevails from here westwards. As usual near large towns, the hills behind were bare and treeless, entirely abandoned to the elaborate but, when seen in illimitable numbers together, most tiresome and unattractive mausolea, —partly hewn out of the rock *in situ*, partly built up of carefully dressed and carved stones quarried alongside. Their monotony was relieved alone by a fine range of turreted temple buildings standing in a walled enclosure on the slope of the hill and containing many fine trees. The Yungning river, as we were locally informed, but the Chingshui, (Clear Water), as it is called in maps, falls in here from the south, flowing through a fine wooded ravine. Below the city are a number of bad reefs running parallel with the river bed, across which the current sets in a very dangerous manner, needing hard rowing and a quick helm to avoid them. Several herons stood on exposed pinnacles of rock, and lifeboats are stationed at the most dangerous points. This rapid is known as the Hupashan, or the Tiger. We rushed through at the rate of ten miles an hour, and it was a relief when the shouting ceased and the crew dropped down on the deck to rest, and let the vessel spin her own way in the eddies below. Another colossal Buddha now became visible on the right bank, freshly gilt, reminding one of the big joss (the late Prince Albert) in Kensington Gardens at home. This Buddha *kuans* or guards the rapid of Kwanyin Pei, (Goddess of Mercy reef) which flows past his feet. At the foot of the rapid stands the snug-looking market town of Shihpengchang, with a fine three-arched bridge with carved parapet spanning a small affluent which here falls in on the right bank. Adjoining is a picturesque temple perched on a rocky bluff, with a handsome flight of steps leading down to the river.

Turning a bend we now came in sight of the important city of Luchow, built at the junction of the To river and the Yangtze. The To is a large river coming in from the North and by it is brought down the bulk of the Tseluchung salt. We had crossed it some fifty miles up, at Neikiang, on our way to that curious region of "Self-flowing Wells." The main stream of the

Yangtze, already reddened by the contributions of the Min, is dyed a still deeper purple by the addition of the To. Luchow, "The Beautiful," stands on the left bank of the To, facing the descending stream, which thus pours forth its wealth at its doors, and the town presents a noble appearance as it stands on rising ground looking up the reach. The configuration of the ground is such that, to a traveller bound down, it looks as though the voyage was to be continued up the wide To river, as the main stream of the Yangtze impinges straight on the north and south range and is deflected sharp off to the right, turning suddenly south-west. Luchow is built along and up the curve of the hills which form the barrier, and with its many temples and groves rising tier upon tier from the water, and its battlemented walls, its heights behind a mass of orange trees, and steep green mountains in the distance, affords another of the perfect pictures of Upper Yangtze towns, of which we have seen so many but of which we never tire. On the right bank opposite the city is a fine suburb, dominated by the beautiful monastery called Tafosze, the "Monastery of Great Buddha," an exquisitely proportioned, three-storied, black and white building, resting against the steep hill-side and buttressed by wide spreading wings of lower buildings, all of wood and surrounded by an extensive and most luxuriant grove of *huangkoo*, walnut, and other trees besides the usual firs. We tied up under the walls of Luchow just before noon and, as our *laoda* had business here, we were given two hours to go ashore and inspect the place. It is seldom that Chinese towns improve on nearer acquaintance, but as regards Luchow, we had no fault to find in this respect: the streets were wide and clean, the shops good and the people civil! Many trees and gardens were attached to the private residences or *kuangkuen*, and one of these had been rented by the China Inland Mission, affording them a spacious and pleasing and airy residence. We were glad to hear from Mr. and Mrs. James, the incumbents of the post, that people and officials were friendly and that no difficulties had been placed in their way in renting houses or otherwise,—a very agreeable state of affairs as compared with that ruling in the treaty port of Chungking. We untied and shot off into the stream again at 2 p.m., passing the suburbs in which stand the Government Salt Gabelle offices and warehouses and a military camp. All the downward-bound salt junks here change their crews.

After rounding the point and watching the picturesque city, with its many coloured and fantastic roofs, recede into the distance, we dropped down rapidly another twenty miles and came in sight of the old town of Luchow—now abandoned for the more convenient upper site by the water—crowning the summit of a steep hill, about five hundred feet high, and of which nothing but the bare walls now remains. Shortly afterwards we came upon the Kuankou, a dangerous rapid which sets round islands by a rock-infested channel and where the crew had to row with might and main against the set in order to keep the vessel in the safe north channel. Lifeboats are also stationed here. We moored below the rapid, but in a very strong current, necessitating many stakes being driven firmly into the shore for us to moor to—at a small market town called Lituchi. Made 310 *li*, say ninety-three miles, in ten rowing hours.

In the shops at Luchow we noticed many cornelian necklaces, real and imitation. These and horn combs seemed a speciality there.

Sunday, 25th September.—It was dark as our *laoda* cast off into the stream, but the eastern sky looked bright and the clouds high, so we hoped at last for a fine day. Our *laoda* evidently intended to make Chungking to-night, if possible, and so save a day's rice for his crew. To do

this he would have to make 450 *li*, say 135 miles, but soon after daybreak, the rain set in again, so heavy that at 7 o'clock we tied up under the walls of Hokianghien, and the forward house was quickly erected as a shelter for our dripping crew. Hokiang, the capital of the district of "United Rivers" is situated on the right bank, at the junction of the Chihshui "Flesh-coloured water" River which here falls in from the south. The city is small but prosperous-looking and stands on rising ground, with a fine stone embankment and broad flights of steps, protecting it from the river. The late floods had, however, undermined the masonry, the foundations of which were very poor as compared with the solidity of the superstructure. At ten the sun came out, for the first time since leaving Kiating, and we made another start, floating down through beautiful country, the tall sugar cane and the dark green orange trees set off by the red earth which, contrasted with the blue sky above, looked a vivid red, especially in the freshly hoed patches, now preparing for the opium seed. We had passed in safety the Lienshih rapids, "Concatenated rocks," and at noon entered a lake-like expanse—the Chukiato, "Reach of the Chu family," with a square pagoda, then past the large village of Sungchi, almost entirely hidden in trees. At two, we reached Shihmen, "Stone Gate," where the river narrowed to a pass between red cliffs, large decorative inscriptions cut in the rocks on the right bank, and a fine seven-storied pagoda *pu-ing*, or perfecting the *fungshui* of the left bank. Thence to Chungpehsia—"Sand-bank"—an agglomeration of towns, stretching a couple of miles along the water front, with many conspicuous large buildings,—all distilleries. The amount of land in Szechuan given up to the luxuries,—wine and opium,—is the despair of the authorities but a striking evidence of the wealth of the province. The hills behind were hideous with a vast expanse of grave mounds, looking in the distance like a sea of green molehills. One sees never a tree in the wide graveyards that surround the cities: the graves are too closely packed to leave room for any vegetation round them and the graves themselves have to be kept clean, the duty of doing which is strictly inculcated and for this purpose there are several recurring festivals set apart during the year.

Towards evening we came to the busy town of Yochi on the right bank. Here the strata cease to be horizontal and a yellow sandstone and shales with crumbling limestone take the place of the red. The strata, running N.E. and S.W., and dipping to the S.E. at an angle of 25, contain an inferior coal which is mined in the primitive Chinese manner. We shot the rapid of Lungmen, "Dragon Gate," turning round twice in the whirlpool below. The land, mostly cleared of the lately reaped maize and *kaoliang*, looked bare, exposing wide surfaces of steep clean red hills, crowned by walls of cliffs, forming natural *chai* or fortresses. The patches of sugar cane were scattered about in small symmetrical plantations, the canes planted in bunches like the paddy in the paddy fields. It was after dark when we tied up under the walls of Kiangchihien, a busy town on the right bank, in a reach running north and south, our course to Chungking from this point on being almost due north. Distance 290 *li*, say 87 miles in ten hours rowing.

Monday, 26th November.—The roofs of the many red and yellow tiled temples and the huge square tower-like pawnshops of the "River-favoured" city glittered in the rising sunshine above the dark walls as we cast off again into the rapid stream. The town is favourably placed, facing and slightly inclined towards the running water, and well screened beyond by a wall of red, orange, and ochre-coloured cliffs on the opposite shore: the slopes above these a forest of

orange trees, with rich-looking farm houses, white with black-tiled and highly decorated roofs, embowered in groves of tall curving feathery bamboos, whose delicate tracery is outlined on the white walls,—peeping out from amongst the rich foliage. A lofty thirteen-storied pagoda stands conspicuous on a very steep conical bright red mountain on the left bank,—one of the peaks of a range rising to about 1,200 feet, all cultivated to the summit. The right bank here is comparatively flat, low hills only rising behind the town.

The valley now soon became filled up with the thick yellow coal smoke of the breakfast fires, and we had to turn the next bend before we again got a view of the surrounding scenery. Tungkuanyi (Stage of Imperial Couriers) was the next place that arrested our attention, a picturesque town situated in a rocky bight. A huge erratic cubical rock-mass lay on the bank before the town,—"it grew there," said our Chinese,—in which was a recess with a gilded Buddha carved in it, *kuan-ing* the river. Oranges, and nothing but oranges, covered the steep hills on both sides of this reach, with fine many-winged farm houses scattered among them. It was eight o'clock as we shot round a corner and entered the Moerhria or "Cat Gorge," again named after a stalactite on its walls. The scenery suddenly becomes very wild; the walls are vertical and coal mines reappear. The towing path runs high up the cliff along a fine cornice road which leads to the entrance of a three-storied temple hollowed out of the cliff,—half sandstone, half limestone. Alongside the temple, an enterprising man has carved out a distillery, which was in full swing as we passed. The face of the cliff is about 400 feet high. A fine lion couchant of harder rock stands detached between the path and the river,—a colossal natural monument which it is difficult to believe is not a work of art. Immediately below the gorge the river widens out into a lake-like reach, known as the Siaoanhai or Small South Sea. Near the left bank is a small, rocky, most picturesque island, beautifully wooded and adorned with a range of temples—much like the celebrated Little Orphan Rock on the Lower Yangtze. The "South Sea" proper is the term under which Buddhists speak of the island of Pootoo in the Chusan Archipelago; the island sacred to the Goddess of Mercy for a thousand years, since the days of the Buddha-revering dynasty of the Tang. Here Kuanyin has her special home and is specially responsive to prayer; but she has special emanations in smaller "South Seas" which are scattered about through the eighteen provinces, where the devout may hope to gain her intercession more surely than in the innumerable temples in her honour to be found in almost every town. The river here at this season is nearly a mile wide, and the reach is contained in on the right bank by a "thousand" hills, whose peaks simulate the hundred island mountains around Pootoo. We passed an extensive boulder bank in mid-stream, its lower end planted with the cane; its upper end alive with gold-washers; sugar and gold produced from one shingle bank in the middle of the river by this indefatigable people!

Another picturesque town on the right bank is Uetunghi, "Fish Cave Stream," off which runs out a rocky reef, producing a rapid with a sharp three-feet fall in the middle; then on through reaches bounded by sandstone cliffs, only slightly exposed above their long *talus* which falls in slopes, just cultivable, to the water's edge. Then the rock fortress of Futoukuan loomed up out of the foggy atmosphere of the great city, and before noon we were moored alongside the wide stairs of two hundred steps leading up to the Gate of "Great Peace," and a few minutes later were back in the home we had quitted just eighty days before, and down again to the depressing

altitude of only 500 feet above sea level. Our river journey from Kiating, a distance of, roughly, four hundred miles, with a fall of five hundred feet, had occupied little over four days—truly Lightning Speed!

(To be continued.)

NATIVE NOTES.

FIRE AT POOTUNG.

A large fire occurred on Friday night at Pootung, a large bamboo yard, cotton cleaning and packing house, and a number of houses, all the property of a man named Chang, being completely destroyed, the loss being not less than Tls. 2,000.

OFFICIAL MOVEMENT.

H.E. Wang Yü-tsao, the newly-appointed Provincial Treasurer of Szechuan, has left this for Ichang by the *Kiangning* via Hankow. His Excellency will proceed overland for his post at Chengtu, the capital of Szechuan.

FIRE AT HANKOW.

A large fire occurred at Hankow on the 12th instant, in which over a hundred families were burnt out and two large temples destroyed. The fire originated in one of the latter.

THE NANKING NAVAL SCHOOL.

The scholars and cadets of the Nanking Naval School were examined on the 11th and 12th instant by H.E. Liu K'un-yi, the Governor-General. The examinations passed off successfully, all the civil and military authorities of the metropolitan city being also in attendance.

AN OFFICIAL FAMILY.

H.E. Wang Yü-tsao, successor to H.E. Kung Chao-yuan in the Treasurership of Szechuan province, arrived here the other day from the North en route to his new post. His Excellency was accompanied by his younger brother, an expectant prefect of Kiangsi, and the two are now staying in the French Concession. Another younger brother, also a prefect, the new manager of the native products *likin* office here, has also arrived from Soochow in order to be with his brothers a few days before taking over charge of his new post in the native city.

PRAYING FOR RAIN.

Owing to the drought on the Yangtze, the district magistrate of Tantu (Chinking) has been attending the temples daily for the past fortnight, praying for rain on behalf of the people of his district. As his prayers have so far not been attended to by the gods, his Worship has ordered the prohibition of animal killing in the whole magistracy, as it is thought that the gods are angry at the great rate the people of Tantu have been butchering their cattle and live stock. By the prohibition of animal slaughter, it is expected that the district will soon be visited by rain.

SABLES FOR THE IMPERIAL FAMILY.

The Tartar-General of Heilungchiang (Amur district) has sent to Peking the annual contribution of the province under him consisting of twenty cases of the finest sable procurable in the Amur district and from Russia. The value of the skins is placed at Tls. 50,000 during ordinary years; but in times of scarcity some of the Tartar-Generals have been known to spend as much as Tls. 100,000 in order to get the necessary number of skins for the annual use of the Imperial Family.

THE WRECK OF THE CARL FRIEDRICH.

The *Straits Times* of the 22nd inst. says:—The steamer *Neera*, which arrived at Singapore this morning, brought a portion of the crew of the wrecked ship *Carl Friedrich*. These were the mate and seven members of the crew; and they were in the

ship's lifeboat when picked up not far from Labuan. They reported that the *Carl Friedrich* was a total wreck on the North Luconia Reef. She went ashore on the 14th November, and two days later the captain, officers, and crew were compelled to take to the boats. The mate and seven of the crew, just arrived, were ten days adrift in an open boat before being picked up by the *Neera*. They suffered great privation. There are two more boats containing the captain and seventeen of crew; and, so far, these have not been heard of.

LOSS OF THE S. S. NORMANBY.

The *Daily Press* of the 16th says:—Manila papers report that the steamer *Normanby*, which left Manila for Singapore on the 29th ultimo, has been lost in the Straits of Bentan near the port of that name. The passengers, consisting of Mr. Harold and his wife and child, and the crew, with the exception of the captain, were saved. The mails were lost. The cargo consisted of 390 mil. cigars for England, 320 mil. cigars for Singapore, 126 piculs hemp cordage, 57 piculs hides, and 1,841 piculs copra. The vessel was despatched by Messrs. Tilson, Hermann & Co.

The *Normanby* was a steamer of 976 gross and 604 tons net register, and 160 horse-power, built at Renfrew in 1874. She was well known in Singapore waters, in which she has been running for many years. She was under the Dutch flag.

OPIUM SMOKING AND LIFE ASSURANCE.

The *Hindu Patriot* has the following in support of Mr. McLauchlan Slater's recent letter on this subject:—The question as to whether a moderate use of opium is injurious to health has been viewed from various stand-points, and while the abolitionists maintain that the use of the drug even in moderate quantities is inimical to health and life, their opponents claiming better authority and a personal knowledge of the question are equally positive that a moderate use of opium is distinctly beneficial to health and tends to prolong life. The latter have just received a most unexpected but most welcome accession in Mr. McLauchlan Slater, the well-known Manager and Actuary of the Oriental Life Assurance Company, which has its head-quarters in Bombay. Mr. Slater has drawn up an interesting note on the actual effect of taking opium in moderation upon the life of assurers. It is well known that the Oriental assures native lives, and we find that it has no fewer than about twenty thousand native assured on its registers. Now it goes without saying that a Life Assurance office makes it a point to reject doubtful lives and takes every possible precaution that no risks are incurred by accepting individuals who are addicted to habits which are believed to be injurious to health and life. Well, the Oriental Life Office, we learn from Mr. Slater, has not found it necessary or even proper to reject persons who are in the habit of taking opium in moderate quantities. This single fact is worth cart-loads of pamphlets and tracts and leaflets and is more relevant to the question of the alleged injurious consequences of the use of opium even when taken in moderation, than volumes of Exeter Hall eloquence which is invariably found to be the progeny of ignorance.

Indeed so far from considering the moderate use of opium as being at all hurtful to health or life, Mr. Slater's thirty years' Indian experience, during twenty of which he has been Manager and Actuary of the Oriental Life Office, has convinced him that the moderate use of opium is distinctly beneficial to health. He supports his conclusion by statistics which may be easily verified. He points out that, since the year 1874, there have been 973 death-claims

aggregating thirty-four lakhs of rupees. Now, will the shrieking brotherhood believe it that in not one single case was death due to the use or abuse of opium. The opium-eaters are sufficiently strongly represented on the list of assurers, for we find that at least two per cent. of the 20,000 individuals insured were known to have habitually used opium, and it is added that they had not suffered any ill effect from the drug. It is to be hoped Mr. Slater will appear before the Commission when they hold their sittings in Bombay and convince them by producing facts and figures that the use of opium so far from producing any evil consequence is positively beneficial in certain respects—so far as may be ascertained from actuarial experiences.

SPORT AND ANECDOTE.

BY AN OLD FOGEY.

THE SEAMY SIDE OF THE TURF: A CONTRAST.

Ah! The seamy side of the turf. I fancy I hear some very cynical persons remark that there is no other side of the "great game." Perhaps they are fortified in their position by the attitude some years ago of a thoroughly respected and fairly fortunate owner of thoroughbreds, who abandoned taking any practical part in racing because he declared that he could not secure the services of one honest man. Moreover, they may quote in support of their contention that famous historical letter to "My Dear Jacko," in which the tall and portly master of Welbeck stated that all jockeys were thieves. Such assertions as these are too comprehensive: they denounce too much. The "Sport of Kings" is not "shady" in every respect. There is a sunny side. I am anxious to impress this point, because in my article I shall only deal with the seamy aspect of what Lord Beaconsfield, I believe, described as a vast engine for national demoralisation.

"ONE OF THE BOYS."

I do not intend to tell you stories concerning the *Running Rein* scandal of the Derby, concerning the poisoning of *Buccaneer* thirty-three years ago, concerning the tampering with the scales when *Catch Em Alive Oh!* won the Cambridgeshire, concerning *Lady Elizabeth*, concerning the shameful frauds on *Madame de Goncourt*, or concerning the drugging of *Orme*. I want to say a few words about the hawks and the pigeons, the "sharps," and the "flats," about blacklegs, about "wrong uns," about "the boys," "welsers," "lumberers," "brief-snatchers," "decoys, card-sharpers, thieves, and the rogues generally, that are to be found on our courses. All these kinds of vagabond exist, and that is why the authorities at our different race meetings are so careful to advertise that the enclosures and the betting ring will be carefully kept, and that Moody and Jacobs and their staff from Newmarket will be on the spot. These men are supposed to know all the "fly" people and doubtless do. But, bless you! hundreds of Moody and Jacobs could not protect some of the flats, the fools, the cretulous innocents, who "go racing." I was once at a very pleasant steeplechase meeting in the Midland counties. It was such a delightful day that I hied me early to the course to enjoy the sights of the country and breathe the refreshing air of a balmy spring day. Having ample leisure I took it into my head to walk over the course with a bookmaker's clerk. We had not travelled far ere a well-dressed, stylish-looking young man ran after us and touched my companion on the shoulder. The stranger to me wore brown leather boots and fashionable clothes, had his racing glass slung over his shoulder, sported a brown billycock, and was chewing a toothpick. I should have guessed him to be a young man of the well-to-do middle-class out for a day's holiday. He made no preliminary remarks, but speaking to my friend, says:—"Luk 'ere, ole man, 'eve yer the price of a sangwitch on yer? S'elp me, I am stoney; never 'ad a blooming bite to-dy. Kedged me fare in Birmingham, and jest run over 'ere ter see if I could get a bit, but I ain't a brown, and aint 'ad nofink to-dy. I could wolf a sangwitch, ole pal." The bookie's factotum gave him a piece of silver and away he went without any profuse thanks. Well, I was

taken aback. It was in my salad days, and I asked: "What can that chap want at a race meeting without any money, and such a swell, too?" "Oh," said my friend, "he's a lumberer. He'll play ducks and drakes with some of the fly flats." I guess he must have fulfilled the prophecy, for after the meeting was over I saw my lord from "Birmingham" with a horse-collar grin lighting up his face as he drove away to the railway station in a hansom. Beware of the "lumberer."

HOW "LUMBERERS" WORK.

Let me sketch you the "lumberer's" method of getting a "bit." These gentry generally work in double harness, they hunt in pairs for "flats." They are generally presentable, shrewd, brazen scamps. They carefully watch for their quarry. Mr. Waylay let us say—will see a gentleman who is evidently alone, who looks "green" and unsuspecting, and will engage him in conversation by asking for the loan of his pencil just for a minute, or by venturing a remark on the last race as the horses are finishing. If he is particularly bold Mr. Waylay may walk up to you with a laugh and a smile and say: "How do you do, old fellow, why I have not seen you for ages?" He may begin by remarking that he is sure he has met you before. One may be taken by surprise, and deceived for the moment into the belief that you do know him. I remember I was once trapped myself at Croxton Park. Perhaps Mr. Waylay will say:—"Fine race that last. By Jove, *Lady Shofly* just got home from the favourite. I knew the favourite wouldn't win. The bookies were always willing to lay him. He was very safe, and Tommy Loates told me that this wasn't his journey. So I backed the mare. Did you? No. Am sorry. Wish I'd seen you before the race. But there, never mind, you can get it back and a bit more, for I know a pinch, a dead cert for the Maiden Plate. The captain told me an hour ago. Ah, but here he comes. Excuse me a minute." Then up comes Lumberer No. 2—Captain Sponger will say—and the pair converse apart. Then Captain Sponger disappears, and Waylay keeps the greenhorn in conversation until the numbers are up. The "Captain" rushes back and exclaims, "Oh! beg pardon for interrupting you—but Mr. Waylay, you must make a big dash for the Maiden Plate. It's all right for *Jurenal*, as I told you. I'm going to have £50 on, and I suppose you will do the same. Does your friend bet? Yes. Well, will he join us in another £50? You will? Ah, I'm so glad—give me your money. I'll get it on for you. I shall get a better price than you—as mine will go on with the stable commission. Rare thing this, I can tell you." May-be the greenhorn does not invest so large a sum, but he is sure to be "rushed" into some outlay. Then Captain Sponger disappears, and, of course, puts the money of the greenhorn in his pocket. *Jurenal* probably hasn't a 1,000 to 1 chance and loses. It is easy to make excuses on a racecourse. If by any chance he should win they vamp up some tale of cock-and-bull that the money was not on as a satisfactory price could not be obtained after all, or they blandly ask for the gentleman's name and address, so that the money may be forwarded on "settling day." Sometimes they fleece their dupes and disappear, sometimes they toy with him, and actually pay him some winnings in the hope of getting a greater haul at the finish. I say, beware of any stranger who speaks to you on a racecourse, and, above all, if you must gamble, always put your money on yourself with some bookmaker who is well-known to to either yourself or your friends.

"SOLD."

Of course, "lumberers" are not always successful. They themselves are sometimes spoofed. I remember a Mr. Waylay engaging in conversation a meek and mild-looking gentleman with a grey beard, who looked very much like a well-to-do tradesman. Indeed, Mr. Waylay took his "capture" up to the refreshment bar and paid for a bottle of champagne. Up came Captain Sponger, who remarks to Mr. Waylay, "What's yer game, yer chump? Don't you know 'im? He's no good for us. He's only a turf reporter, and reporters have no money." Great laughter on the part of "the innocent" captured. Tableau. "Rapier," too, tells a tale of the "lumberers" trying it on one day with Mr. Arthur Owen. A well-known baronet was running a mare in a certain race, and meeting

Mr. Owen asked him if he had backed his mare. "I intend to do," was the reply, "though my friend, who says he has known you since childhood declares that you told him you had no chance, and were not trying in this race." This discomfited lumberer doubtless blushed, if he was capable of such a feat, for he was the "friend." At any rate he disappeared with marvellous rapidity, and, like the whale that was blown up by the Whitehead torpedo, was seen no more.

A CRUEL DECEPTION.

Some three years ago a most disgraceful story concerning the action of a gang of "lumberers" went the round of the Press. A young gentleman, an officer in the army, and the son of a poor clergyman, was staying for a few days at the Grand Hotel, London. Some of these gentry contrived to scrape up an acquaintance with him. Of course, he had no idea that they were swindlers of the worst type, and a game of cards being proposed, the officer was so foolish as to ask them up to his rooms in the hotel. I need hardly add that he was fleeced. At the end of the sitting he owed them £80 and had to apologise because he was unable to pay. They desired him not to put himself about over such a trifle, and invited him down to Sandown Park races the next day. Accordingly they all went. Having arrived they said they would not go into their themselves, as the bookmakers knowing their special sources of information would not lay them the full rate of odds. All he need do was to go to Fry, the big bookmaker, and hand his card, and back certain animals for them and himself as well. This the young officer did, and at the end of the afternoon he owed Mr. Fry a matter of £600. Then he could not find his companions. Of course, they had fled, and it dawned upon him at last that he had been victimised. Fry at first was naturally very wrath, but behaved handsomely enough when the whole matter was cleared up. You see those "lumberers" were playing up for a big win. If their horses had won, they would, of course, have drawn their share and they might now be the owners of racehorses. I can assure you that even the ranks of racehorse owners have been recruited from "lumberers" and such honest plebeian folk as "c'rect card and pencil" sellers.

"BRIEF SNATCHERS."

"Brief snatchers" may not be known to some of my lay-readers. By the use of the term "lay" I mean those who do not go racing. "Brief" or ticket snatchers are nothing but thieves. Thus, when you make a ready-money bet on a course, the bookmaker gives a numbered ticket with his name and address—the number corresponding to the entry in his books. If you lose the ticket is valueless, and may be thrown away. But if you win you must present your ticket to the "metallician" for payment. Maybe you are hurrying to the bookmaker to draw your stake and winnings when suddenly your hat is jammed over your eyes and the ticket in your hand snatched. Ere you recover your self-possession and can look around, the "brief snatchers" have gone, and probably received your money. You go to the bookmaker, but you will invariably find that he has paid out. Some unprincipled scoundrels who pose as bookmakers employ ticket snatchers, and I have heard of some bookmakers actually tearing up your ticket before your very eyes and refusing to pay upon some paltry, twopenny-halfpenny excuse. If you begin to argue or make any disturbance over the matter, some short-haired, unprincipled pugilist in the bookmaker's service, either threatens you with prompt punishment or staggers you with a blow on the nose or in the eye.

RAPACIOUS ROUGHS.

Then on our racecourses it is very rare indeed that some of "the boys" are not present. "The boys" are simply and solely rapacious roughs who think it their legitimate business to maul, maltreat, and abuse some inoffensive, unoffending person and to rob him of all he possesses. It is very common for them to tip a man's hat over his eyes in the midst of a crowd. The gentleman assaulted naturally raises his hands to put his hat right. "The boys" artfully keep his hands up in the air while some of the party with deft and light fingers speedily run over his pockets and annex the contents. These things are done every day, and I assure you, that so powerful, so awe-inspiring are these gangs, that none dare

offer to go to the relief of the victim. Some people, even some bookmakers, have been disgracefully and cruelly handled by these villains. And yet they infest our racecourses. A few policemen dotted about here and there are perfectly powerless, and indeed I see no possibility of this state of things being remedied until the Jockey Club raise funds for a body of detective police of their own. Welshers, artists skilled in the mazes of the three-card trick, purse-illusionists, and common thieves abound at such gatherings, but these are now dealt with by the police under the criminal law as thieves, rogues, and vagabonds. But this blackguardly outside fringe is very damaging to a noble institution and a grand sport.

THE UNBLUSHING TIPSTERS.

Another kind of adventurer who seems able to cajole money from the pockets of a population mostly consisting of fools are the tipsters. These men, in most instances, are arrant impostors. There are grades of tipsters—from the men who send every horse in the race to different subscribers, down to those who send out printed circulars giving their wonderful exclusive information. Only on the very day of the last Cambridgeshire, I saw a remarkably confident circular from a tipster who assured his clients that *Castleblaney* had a stone in hand, and that Bates, the trainer, greatly fancied the chance of *Llanthony*. It was a communication calculated to make a man "down with his dust." And yet neither horse was placed. Still, I daresay that this gentleman advertises that he sent *Molly Morgan* and *Raelburn* to all his subscribers, etc., etc. Put not your faith in tipsters. I remember a tipster who was run by a syndicate. The syndicate advertised their small prophet so largely, so boldly, so magnificently, in all the best newspapers of the country that I have no doubt that thousands of people were beguiled into investing their money upon the mere dictum of a person they knew nothing in the world about. So easily are folks gulled by brag and bounce. I am strongly of opinion that there are plenty of "flats" in the world to maintain all the "sharps." So much for some of the swindlers of the turf.

"SWELL SHARPS."

But they are not all. There are other sharps. We all regret that there are unscrupulous owners of horses; that there are thieving jockeys, and that there are "sharps" who are on the alert for coining money by any means. Their motto is "Get money, get it honestly if you can, but in any event get it." These are the black sheep who cause more trouble and suffering than all the "lumberers" and other unprincipled ruffians put together. Their operations are secret and very far-reaching. There are owners on the turf who will lay money against their own horses winning, and there are some who prefer to run second in selling races to being first. This latter form of swindling is very prevalent in hunters' flat races for small stakes. Of course, in accordance with the conditions the winner is disposed of by auction, and often enough realises a good round sum. The surplus over the entered selling price is usually divided between the fund of the race meeting and the owner of the second. Often enough we see among the entries for a £50 plate a horse to be sold for £100. If this £100 hunter wins he may be bid up to £300 or more. One never knows how they play at this game. In that event the owner of the second would receive £100 or twice the value of the stakes. Indeed there are so many tricks in connection with selling races that one is obliged to look upon them as premiums upon dishonesty. Revelations of late years as to jockeys' betting transactions, and as to "rings," by which it is arranged that certain horses shall win races leave little doubt that "jockey" is a very suitable word to apply to some of the illustrious knights of the pigskin. In nine cases out of ten the jockeys are the ultimate masters of the situation, and, as I said the other week, owners and trainers have to rely upon their honour and probity to do justice to their mounts. On one occasion a bookmaker was offering 70 to 40 on the field against a horse that seemed to have great chance of winning. His offer was promptly accepted by a commissioner, who took 700 to 400. Then the commissioner softly whispered:—"I'm backing the horse for the owner." "Oh, are you," replied the bookie, "because I'm laying him."

for the jockey." These sort of things will occur, if we may take history as our guide, in the best regulated stables. The sharps are always on the alert for coining money. I refer to those very knowing persons who generally manage to ascertain when a jockey weighs out with a few pounds short of the impost he ought to carry, when there has been a mistake in a description, a pedigree, and even in a certificate. The "sharps" generally learn all these little matters, and whoever wins or loses they rarely fail to turn a dishonest penny. It is the easiest thing in the world for backers or "the talent," or for fielders or the bookmakers to make money out of such exclusive knowledge. Of course a bookmaker will lay against a horse for ever and a day if he feels certain that he will be disqualified on some technical point, known very possibly to a select few, even after the animal has won. And yet really this is contrary to the true principle of gambling, because one side has no change of winning. I can assure you, from personal experience, that bookmakers generally know more than backers, and they do like to "field" against a horse which they know to be wrongly entered or in default in some other way. Now I have given you some faint idea of the seamy side of the turf.

Law Reports.

H.B.M.'s SUPREME COURT.

Shanghai, 18th December.

Before N. J. HANSEN, Esq., *Chief Justice*.
MAJOR v. JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.

This case again came before the Court this afternoon, upon an application by Mr. J. C. Hanson, on behalf of the defendants, for leave to produce further evidence. Mr. Hanson appeared in support of the motion, and Mr. H. P. Wilkinson for the plaintiff.

Mr. Hanson said his application was that the defendants might be at liberty, notwithstanding the late stage of the case, to adduce as evidence certain plans. He was quite aware it was a very unusual application to make, especially at that stage, but the case itself was, he thought, rather an unusual one, arising as it did out of the peculiar way in which title to land was held here. His Lordship would perhaps recollect that in the endorsement on the defendants' title-deed, as to the measurement of the land in the title-deed, was a reference to the reports of the deputies when the land was measured, and it appeared the reports were accompanied by plans, and it was those plans that he now asked leave to put in evidence. Unfortunately, until recently, it had not been the practice to keep copies in the Land Office of such plans, otherwise he might have been able to see them in the Land Office. As stated in his affidavit, he had made constant enquiries through the proper channel to ascertain whether or not those plans which were referred to in the endorsement existed or not, and to see them, but it was only last week he was able to ascertain definitely that those plans were in existence, and that they would be material assistance in support of the defendants' case. Of course it might be asked why he did not apply at the very beginning of the case to ask the Taotai to produce in Court any plans. In the first place, he (Mr. Hanson) did not know definitely whether there were any such plans in existence, and if they did exist, of what they consisted. It might be said that he objected to certain plans being put in by the plaintiff, but His Lordship would see that a *tipao's* plan, prepared by him with the assistance of the elders and gentry of Sinza was a very different plan from those he (Mr. Hanson) now asked to put in evidence—plans officially prepared at the time the title-deed was granted to Mr. Major. Of course there was a very great reluctance on the part of the Court to allow new evidence to be put in, especially as both sides had summed up, but he thought it was a little different where the

new evidence proposed to be put in was documentary. He had looked into a good many cases, but he could not find a hard-and-fast rule laid down which absolutely prohibited any new evidence being received. Of course he did not ask for it as a matter of right; it was simply a question of indulgence. He thought the evidence was material to his case, and left it to His Lordship's discretion as to whether it could be brought in. He had considered it right to make the application now, rather than to wait and allow judgment to be pronounced, because, if after the judgment, either party wished to carry the case further and he applied to bring in his new evidence he might be told he should have mentioned the fact directly he heard of the evidence.

Mr. Wilkinson said the fact of His Lordship, in his discretion, placing the application down for hearing was the reason he (Mr. Wilkinson) would go into the arguments on the facts as adduced by the other side—

His Lordship—I don't understand what you mean by that; the defendants, by their Counsel, move that notwithstanding the present stage they may be allowed to give further evidence.

Mr. Wilkinson—Your Lordship has treated this application as a serious one.

His Lordship—Suppose you move to be allowed to blow your nose on a particular day; I do not see how, if a motion is made in the ordinary way any Judge would hear of it at the time.

Mr. Wilkinson—Just so, no Judge would hear of it.

His Lordship—But you must not assume then that I treated it seriously. It is a motion, and the motion has come on and has to be heard.

Mr. Wilkinson contended that the affidavit of the defendants' solicitor in support of the application was irregular, inasmuch as it did not conform to rules 231 and 232 of the Orders of that Court. The application really amounted to a request by the defendants that judgment should not be given against them until they had had an opportunity of finding out whether there was not some more evidence in their favour.

His Lordship—This is the only point of any real importance. There are cases where a new trial has been granted. If a new trial could be granted on further evidence, plainly it would be a simpler thing to stop and let us have this additional evidence before giving judgment. If the circumstances in this case would justify a new trial, then I think it would be a reasonable application, and therefore I think what you have to meet is—Is this evidence such as would entitle them to a new trial?

Mr. Wilkinson said there was no case showing a distinction between judgment reserved and judgment delivered.

His Lordship—Yes, I think you are right there.

Mr. Wilkinson said if such an application as the present one were to succeed it would be a most dangerous thing.

His Lordship—Mr. Hanson, I think Mr. Wilkinson is right in regard to that. I do not see you can come here. You see, although I reserved judgment, I might have delivered it at the moment, and until I deliver judgment I am *functus officio*.

Mr. Hanson—I thought it right to mention it.

His Lordship—I do not like in a case of this sort, which is of great importance, that any motion should come before me and I should say "I will not hear it," but I think Mr. Wilkinson is right, and the motion must be refused, with costs.

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H.B.M.'s POLICE COURT.

Shanghai, 21st December.

Before JAMES SCOTT, Esq., *Police Magistrate*.

R. v. WATSON.

A Japanese woman, giving the name of Watson, was charged with being drunk and disorderly in the Boone Road. In February last the accused was charged with creating a disturbance in the same locality, and papers were then produced showing she was the wife of a British subject said to be living in Japan.

Accused, in reply to His Worship, admitted being drunk, in fact she had been "tipsy all day." She complained that some persons had been breaking her gate in the Boone Road, which had very much annoyed her.

P.C. Craig proved the charge, stating that about a hundred Chinese had collected round the accused, who was making a great disturbance.

His Worship ordered her to pay a fine of \$10.

R. v. SMITH.

James Smith was charged with being drunk and incapable in Broadway.

Inspector Reed said the accused had been taken into custody really for his own good. He had been getting drunk lately, and though he was not disorderly, he would fall down in the street in a helpless condition. He was a seafaring man and had formerly been a captain of a ship.

His Worship said he thought it would be advisable if a ship could be found for the man, as he would only go from bad to worse if he remained in Shanghai without employment.

Accused said he had a situation at present on the *Newchwang* lightship, and would return to it.

His Worship ordered the accused to be detained for seven days, and directed, however, that if in the meantime any employment offered he should be at once released.

MIXED COURT.

Shanghai, 18th December.

Before Mr. TSAI, *Magistrate*, and Mr. J. SCOTT, *British Assessor*.

A Sochow man was sentenced to be sent into the city to be dealt with for assaulting his father. A Tsungming man was sentenced to receive 200 blows and to be imprisoned for six months for being in the unlawful possession of a silver watch and two opium and two brass water pipes and a quantity of cotton clothing. Also with stealing three opium pipes from an opium shop on Cemetery Road, value at \$8. Two men and a woman, natives of Shanghai, were charged with assaulting the complainant in Peking Road. The men were sentenced to 2 weeks' imprisonment, and the woman to a week's imprisonment. A well known thief, native of Tsungming, was charged with stealing some clothing, valued at \$4, from a house in North Honan Road, also with returning from deportation. He was sentenced to receive 150 blows and to be re-deported. Four men, three of them well-known thieves, were charged with three cases of larceny and stealing property valued at \$43. The three known men were sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment, 200 blows and to be deported, and the other to 200 blows and deportation. A ricksha coolie was sentenced to three weeks' imprisonment for stealing a jinricksha from the French Concession. A boy, native of Pootung, was sent to the Sinza Refuge for stealing some clothing and silver buttons, valued at \$12, from a house in Kiukiang Road, in July last. A beggar was sentenced to three weeks' cageue for assaulting native constable, No. 307, in Sungkian Road on the 17th

inst. A Ningpo man was sentenced to 3 weeks' imprisonment for stealing some clothing from a house in Hankow Road on the 13th inst. All the property in the above cases was recovered. A mafon, for furiously driving a pony and carriage in the Hunan Road, thereby colliding with a shop, breaking the door and window and doing other damage, was cautioned and ordered to pay \$12 compensation; and a chair coolie for stealing \$13.70 from a native in the Wuhu Road, was ordered a month's imprisonment and to repay the money.

19th December.

Before Mr. TSAI, Magistrate, and Mr. W. S. EMENS, U.S. Assessor.

In a remanded case of stealing 10 balls of opium from a steamer at the Associated Wharves, the three prisoners were sentenced to one hundred blows and two months' imprisonment. The receiver of the opium was ordered to pay Tls. 57.20 to the agents of the steamer. A gambler with dice was sentenced to 100 blows, and a boy for a similar offence was required to get his master to go bail for him, failing which he is to be locked up for seven days.

20th December.

Before Mr. TSAI, Magistrate, and Mr. J. SCOTT, British Assessor.

Two Kiangpoh men were charged with assaulting the complainant and forcibly stealing from him a quantity of cotton and a bow valued at \$3. As the stories of complainant and defendants were untrustworthy, the case was dismissed, the prisoners being cautioned. The parties, it appeared, had quarrelled over an unpaid account. A Ningpo man was charged with obstructing the police in the execution of their duty, and with rescuing a prisoner. He was fined \$2, one half of this amount to go to a policeman as compensation. In a case of assault, a jinricha coolie was sentenced to one week's imprisonment for stealing a silver watch and other articles from various houses in the Settlement. A Hupeh man was sentenced to 3 months' imprisonment and to be deported, and a Swatow man for stealing two opium pipes from a house in the Foochow Road was sentenced to 2 weeks' imprisonment.

MORE LIKELY TO BREAK DOWN.

Who hasn't heard of the good old Deacon in America, and his idea of how a chaise should be built so as to run for ever without repairs? I dare say we all have, yet he hasn't quite gone stale yet.

He said, you remember, that the reason chaises broke down and didn't wear out was that there was always a weakest spot somewhere about them. Now, said the Deacon, the way to fix it is to make that spot as strong as the rest. Then the vehicle might wear out, but couldn't break down. He built a chaise on that principle; it never broke down; it ran a hundred years exactly, and then one day it went to pieces all at once; all at once and nothing first, just as bubbles do when they burst. Its time was come; for, as the man says who once told the story in rhyme, "little of all we value here, wakes on the morn of its hundredth year, without both feeling and looking queer."

Yes, and long before that time most of us begin to look and feel queer. And it's all on account of that weak spot, too. If it wasn't for that we should be like the Deacon's chaise—we should run till we wear out. As it is we break down on the road, often beyond repair. But not always.

Otherwise a certain man could never have used these words. "I feel as smart to-day as I did thirty years ago." His story, in his own words, runs this way:—

"From my youth I was never properly well. I had a bad taste in the mouth and pain after eating. Often I couldn't touch food when it was set before me. I felt a gnawing at the stomach and a tightness at the chest and sides. Sometimes my bowels were so swollen I had to loose my clothes. I had

violent pains in my head for days together. This continued for years and years. About thirty years ago I began to have rheumatic pains all over me, especially in the back and legs. I got so bad I couldn't walk without a stick, and on my way to and from my work I had to sit down and rest.

"I got no proper sleep at night owing to the pain. Day nor night, I never knew what it was to be free from pain. As time went by I became quite crippled. Doctor after doctor gave me medicines and rubbing bottles, but none of the things I tried did any good. The doctors said my ailment was rheumatism and lumbago and made light of it, but it was serious enough for me. For thirty years I suffered dreadfully. My wife used to rub me before the fire night after night and apply flannels relieving me only for the time. I gave up all hope of ever being well again, when in November, 1887, I read of the good Mother Seigel's Syrup had done in so many cases. I began to use it, and after taking a few bottles all my aches and pains left me and have never returned since. This medicine seems to have driven all the poison out of my system, and I feel as smart to-day as I did thirty years ago, for which I thank God and Seigel's Syrup. Had I used it sooner I should have been saved years of suffering." (Signed) WILLIAM STODDART, Douglas, near Cork, Ireland, January 7th, 1892.

Mr. Stoddart is gardener at Mrs. Edwards', the Island, Rochestown, and has a shop at Douglas. He is a very respectable man and has been in service at Mrs. Edwards' twenty years.

In his letter he further states that from boyhood he was a victim to indigestion and dyspepsia. This fact explains the rheumatism, as it was the cause of it. The bile acids from the torpid stomach and liver filled the blood, lodged in the joints and muscles, and gave rise to all the consequences he describes. The effect of the Syrup was to expel the acids from the body and set the digestive machinery healthily at work, for the first time in this man's life.

This was the way the human vehicle broke down in Mr. Stoddart's case, but fortunately for him he came across something that had power to repair it. Better watch the weak spots. Delays are dangerous.

(*) 15, 22, 29de 107

MARRIAGES.

On the 18th December, 1893, at Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Right Rev. Bishop Moule, D.D., GEORGE KINGSTON HALL BRUTON, to LOUISE HART.

On the 20th December, 1893, at H.B.M.'s Consulate-General, and afterwards at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Right Rev. Bishop Moule, D.D., CHARLES ARTHUR, eldest son of the late Charles PULLAN, to LOUISA CHARLOTTE MARION, only daughter of Henry KORSCH, Commissioner, Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs.

On the 20th December, 1893, at the Cathedral, Shanghai, by the Right Rev. Bishop Moule, D.D., the Rev. J. W. HEYWOOD, Wenchow, to EDITH ANNIE, eldest daughter of Jas. TURNER, Esq., Preston, Lancashire.

DEATHS.

At the General Hospital, Shanghai, on the 15th December, 1893, EDMUND J. COATS, aged 35 years.

At Shanghai, on the 17th December, 1893, MALCOLM, the infant son of Robert Lawrie and Rose Amanda SMITH, aged 2 months and 6 days.

At Shanghai, on the 17th of December, 1893, JAMES HOWELL, late Inspector of River Police, I.M.C., aged 54.

On the 7th November, suddenly, at 15, King-street, St. James's, London, S.W. JAMES BENFORD DEACON, in his 66th year, formerly of Canton and Macao.

PASSENGERS.

DEPARTED.

Per str. *Rosetta*, for London—Mr. Thos. Russell. For Brindisi—Mr. A. J. H. Carlill. For Hongkong—Mr. and Mrs. E. B. Sturgis. Miss Hanbury, Messrs. R. Markwick, Janna-homed, Thomas, C., and D. Hanbury.

Per str. *Saiko Maru*, for Kobe—Messrs. (2) S. Shibutani. For Yokohama—Mr. J. Keator. For San Francisco—Dr. and Mrs. Faries

and (2) children. For London—Mr. J. W. Tucky.

Per str. *Natal*, for Kobe—Captain J. P. Roberts.

Per str. *Poyang*, for Hankow—Rev. F. Hidalgo.

Per str. *Kiangfoo*, for Wuhu—Rev. H. Moisan.

Per str. *Chintung*, for Chefoo—Miss Wright.

Per str. *Kowshing*, for Foochow—Mr. W. H. Drummond.

Per str. *Yuenwo*, for Hankow—Mr. and Mrs. Moorhead and 2 daughters.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, for Ningpo—Mr. J. J. Mansfield.

Per str. *Kiangyü*, for Kiukiang—Mr. and Mrs. Pullan, Mrs. C. Schlee, and Mr. H. Schlee. For Hankow—Rev. and Mrs. Myers.

ARRIVED.

Per str. *Natal*, from Marseilles for Shanghai—Mrs. Moorhead and 2 daughters, Villard and child, Rev. Fathers Marcel, Solane and Armand, Mr. and Mrs. Mansfield and 2 children, Mrs. Williams and 1 child, Messrs. Williams, Ventzenen and C. Benecke. From Singapore—Mr. E. Helm and 1 Japanese. From Saigon—Mrs. Gonzague and 4 French sailors. From Hongkong—Mrs. de Souza, Rev. C. Hidalgo and servant, Sister Marie.

Per str. *Palinurus*, from Liverpool and Hongkong—Mrs. McIldonie, Mrs. Kay and infant, Misses Menzies and Turner.

Per str. *Gisela*, from Bombay—Mr. E. Helm.

Per str. *Yokohama Maru*, from Japan, etc.—Mr. and Mrs. Paramore, Mr. and Mrs. J. E. Seaman, Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Hill, Mrs. E. M. Yates, Mrs. Ivy and son, Mrs. N. Sutherland, Mr. and Mrs. F. Viking, Miss Francis C. Bliss, Mr. and Mrs. J. C. Smith, Mrs. L. Moore, Revs. R. M. Mateer, W. F. Beaman, C. A. Solquist, F. J. Bradshaw, W. M. Upcraft and H. J. Openshaw, Dr. E. E. Malcolm, Lieut. Danch, Messrs. F. E. Wight, W. T. Payne, H. Dharmapala, H. G. Brand, H. Ehlers, Tung Mun Chung, N. S. Johnson, Chung Oy Wan and G. A. Carlson.

Per str. *Lennox*, from Moji—Mr. J. Courtney Hixon.

Per str. *Tehshing*, from Tatung—Fathers Grillo and Moisyay.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mr. and Mrs. Merrill and servant, Mr. Tie and 2 servants.

Per str. *Kiangwan*, from Hankow—Messrs. Moorhead and Green.

Per str. *Wuchang*, from Tientsin—Mr. P. F. Carneiro.

Per str. *Poyang*, from Hankow—Messrs. Russell, Carl Bock, Schmidt, Lehmann and Kuwabara.

Per str. *Yuenwo*, from Hankow—Mr. Gilchrist.

Per str. *Tacoma*, from Hongkong—Misses M. L. Hart and E. Hathaway and Mr. Ho Kam Tong. For Tacoma—Mr. and Mrs. C. Lester.

Per str. *Kiangteen*, from Ningpo—Mrs. Symons and Miss Corbin.

Per str. *Haeing*, from Wenchow—Mrs. Rex and son, Messrs. A. Harrison and J. H. Tratman.

Per str. *Kowshing*, from Foochow—Messrs. F. J. Marshall, de Prat, H. Shlee, McKie, D. E. Sassoon and H. Phipps.

Per str. *W. Cores de Vries*, from Hankow—Mrs. E. Lusher. From Wuhu—Miss M. Nazer. From Chinkiang—Mr. and Mrs. Gregson.

METEOROLOGICAL REPORT.

Day of Month.	Barometer.		Wind.		Hygrometer.		Thermometer.		Initials.
	9 A.M.	4 P.M.	Direction.	Force.	Dry bulb.	Wet bulb.	Max.	Min.	
Dec 18	32.40	35.0	W.	1	35.0	froz	50.0	26.0	R.
19	30.37	42.5	S.W.	2	42.5	37.5	61.0	31.6	C.
20	30.32	43.0	E.	2	43.0	41.0	51.0	40.0	O.
21	30.28	43.0	S.	2	43.0	47.5	64.0	42.0	S.
22	30.29	43.0	S.W.	2	43.0	39.0	64.0	41.0	C.
23	30.18	46.0	"	2	46.0	44.0	66.0	41.0	O.
24	30.17	46.0	S.W.	2	46.0	44.0	57.5	42.0	O.

EXPLANATION.

Initials:—b, blue sky; c, clouds; f, fog; h, hail; l, lightning; m, misty (hazy); o, overcast (dull); r, rain; s, snow; t, thunder; z, calm. Force from 1 to 12 estimated.

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Shanghai, 17th Dec., 1892.

COMMERCIAL INTELLIGENCE.

SHANGHAI, 21st December, 1893.

PIECE GOODS.—The enquiry which commenced to manifest itself towards the close of last mail for "cash" bargains has continued to develop, but the paucity of supplies of the most desired makes will prevent business of any great magnitude or importance. Holders for the most part, indeed, do not appear to entertain the proposals very favourably, but some have been less exacting and, altogether, a fair amount for this late period must have been settled on the basis of "cash" this year—unfortunately, however, both buyers and sellers are very loath to divulge particulars of their transactions. The lower classes of 8.4-lbs. Shirtings, 12-lbs. Shirtings and White Shirtings have attracted most attention, the first named also being sought for "to arrive." The local dealers have, apparently, receive more re-assuring advices from our dependencies, and are recovering from the depression which seemed to have settled down on them at the closing of the Northern Ports; prices in the country are reported to have a decidedly firmer appearance and prospects are certainly improving in the SZECHUEN and YANGTSE districts, so that indentors are a little less anxious about placing their goods at the enhanced cost caused by the drop in exchange.

At the auctions this week fairly steady prices have ruled for both WOOLLENS and COTTONS, a slight increase in the quantity of common 8.4-lbs. Shirtings probably accounting for the weaker feeling displayed there.

A few parcels of Shirtings have been re-shipped from the JAPAN markets to this and have sold satisfactorily, considering they were under strange chops. It is reported that the first transaction in JAPANESE made DRILLS and SHEETINGS, for this market, has just been accomplished at remarkably high prices, considering the inferior quality. The goods are to be delivered in time for the first TIENSIN steamers:—4,500 pieces of Drills at \$3.20, and 4,000 pieces of Sheetings at \$3.00.

Just before the close of last Mail the important news was received that no more obstacles would be put in the way of natives desiring to establish Cotton Mills here, or at any of the Treaty Ports, on their quarantening to pay a royalty on the production in order to reimburse the money lost by the Mandarins in the local mill recently destroyed by Fire. Already four mills are on the tapis, for one of which, at least, arrangements are far advanced. The machinery, etc., is to be imported through a JAPANESE firm, who guarantee to provide experts from their country to superintend and teach the natives, the intention, so far, being to employ no other foreign signers. There is no doubt that, untrammelled by the Mandarinate, there is enterprise enough amongst the commercial classes to push this forward to a successful issue; ample funds will be forthcoming and the only risk seems to be that it may be over done!

The MANCHESTER market remains as last reported, and is only prevented from showing its weakness by the manufacturers being so fully engaged.

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs. The business reported is small enough, not being more than 12,000 pieces, but a good deal has not been published. The quotations given are—Green Stag and Stork \$1.90, Red Fish \$1.97½, Blue Pah-shu-do \$2.04, and Blue 4 Women and Frog \$2.05. Holders are firm and the qualities in demand very scarce. At auction steady prices have been paid for all but the commonest.

Light Weights.—These exhibit very little change at auction.

Heavy Weights.—Beyond a few special makes there has been nothing doing in these privately, but at auction a better feeling is shown, prices being up all round a candareen or two.

12-lbs., 36-inch.—More favourable news from the Upper YANGTSE seems to be causing an enquiry for these and sales of 18,000 pieces are reported on private terms for cash, the prices paid, it is said, being fully five candareens over offers made a month ago.

White Shirtings.—A few sales have appeared in the book this week, but they are not all from first hands, or at all events not recently, they are, 5,000 pieces Peach and Bat 64-reed at \$2.12½, 2,500 pieces Blue Dragon No. 1 ditto at \$2.40, 1,500 pieces Gold Flower 72-reed at \$2.60 and a few Chairmender ditto at \$2.55. Some fine makes have been placed at \$3.25 and \$3.40. Prices realised at auction are fairly steady for all kinds.

T-Cloths.—These are a blank again privately, those at auction being about steady.

Jeans.—*English.*—A sale of 3,000 pieces is reported on private terms for Cash.

Drills.—The only transaction mentioned is a small lot of *Crocodile* (ENGLISH make) to arrive at ₹3.35. It is said that *Pepperells* are now re-selling amongst the Natives at ₹3.45.

Sheetings.—In *English* a small sale of a *Sentry* chop is reported at ₹2.80, and in *American* 2,000 pieces *Buffalo* at ₹2.95 and 4,000 pieces *Phoenix* E at ₹2.98½ are in the book.

Cotton Yarn.—*English.*—The Yarn arriving now is all under Indents on a sterling basis.

Indian.—The market is quieter but fairly steady. A rumour is being spread amongst the dealers that the pioneer JAPANESE steamer has left BOMBAY with a large cargo, mostly No. 20, at a very low rate of freight and they are, therefore, afraid to do anything beyond the actual requirements for immediate consumption. Sales this week amount to 1,244 bales as under.

No. 10s., 262 bales—*Hope Mill* ₹52, *Dhru* ₹52½, *New Empress* and *Lakmidass* ₹53, *Imperial* ₹53½, *Connaught* ₹54, and *Howard* ₹54½.

No. 16s., 212 bales—*Vithaldas Copaldas* ₹61, *Venishunker* ₹61½ net, *Macagon*, *Lakmidass*, *Bombay National* and *Woman chop* ₹62, *M. Petit. Sun*, ₹62½, and *Franchise Petit* ₹64.

No. 20s., 770 bales—*Hope Mill* and *Beg Mahomad* ₹66½, *Mahalzussmee* ₹66½ net, *Lakmidass*, *Queen* and *Jamshed* ₹67½, *Currimbhoy*, *Imperial*, *E. D. Sassoon's 2 Boy* ₹67½, *Motilall* ₹67½ and *Tea Carrier* ₹68.

The s.s. *Ganges* is bringing 1,549 bales and the *Gisela* ₹1,300 bales.

Fancy Goods.—There is next to nothing doing. A better enquiry for *Velvets* has manifested itself the last few days, but the dealers have not come up to the ideas of holders yet. The demand for *Turkey Reds* is fairly brisk and they are being cleared very satisfactorily.

Woollens.—The auction results this week show a better feeling for these goods, assisted of course by the moderate quantities submitted. CAMLETS are firm and *Scarlet* has quite recovered from the weakness displayed last Thursday. LONG ELLS are the only things that declined at all, although represented by but one chop—the comparatively heavy stock for this time of year no doubt telling against them. LASTINGS went at steady prices for the No. 12s and advanced a mace and more for the lower reel, but the quantity was small. SPANISH STRIPES exhibit quite a revival, all the leading colours advancing. Privately a sale has been made of 180 pieces *Joss Medium Cloth* at ₹0.74 per yard for assorted colours.

Metal and Miscellaneous.—From Mr. Alex. Biefeld's Report of 22nd December:—It is becoming monotonous to report from week to week that no change has taken place in the import market. Nevertheless such is the case. A few more reasons for the quietude of business reported on for some time past may be added from week to week, but on the whole the principal features which have characterised trade for many months have remained the same. Quotations for most articles are higher, and natives continue their policy of ordering very limited quantities only and they generally manage to buy at the bottom prices, so much so that among the foreign competitors A often wonders how B can do it, and B is lost in his calculations next, and wants to know how A does it. But a certain amount of business is done all the same, it seems, however, that the outlook for the future is far from promising to importers. The closing months of the Chinese New Year are not likely to show any very important change, either in the character of the demand or in the prices realised by the native indentors. All depends on exchange, the state of the markets in the consuming districts after New Year, and the demand for after New Year delivery.

METALS.—This market has not undergone any change since my last writing, but if anything it is firmer. LEAD.—With the exception of a sale of 100 tons *Enthoven*, "to arrive," at ₹4.45, there has been nothing doing under this heading. Stocks are about 600 tons in all. **PIG IRON.**—Since the Arsenals are buying direct or through their Agents, dealers are doing very little in this line, and stocks in their hands are not beyond 200 tons, NAILROD IRON has not moved much. A few hundred tons *Alliance* were settled at ₹5.9 c.i.f., but no forward sales have been made of other kinds. Stocks are about 700 tons *Special Chops*; 300 tons *Belgian* and 1,000 tons *Soliers*. **NEW BOILER PLATE CUTTINGS.**—Stocks are about 500 tons, 200 tons were settled at 78/ January shipment. **IRON WIRE.**—Rates are firmer and small invoices have been booked at better rates. Stocks are about 1,000 casks, and some 3,000 casks are "to arrive" after New Year. **OLD IRON.**—Settlement are not important. **Boiler Tubes**, **Cable Wire** and **Cart Tyres** are reported to be done, but particulars have not leaked out. Stocks are estimated as follows:—2,500 tons *Horse-shoes*; 400 tons *Boiler Plates*; 150 tons *Boiler Tubes*; 200 tons *Bale Hoops*; 100 tons *Railway Spokes and Spikes*; 200 tons *Ship-plates*; 400 tons *Cart Tyres*; 100 tons *Telegraph Wire*; 1,000 tons *Scrap Iron*. **BAMBOO STEEL.**—Values are well maintained. Stocks are about 1,000 boxes *Double Horse*, and 2,000 cases other chops. **STRAITS TIN** is firmer, and selling in a small way at quotations. Stocks of **COPPER** and **YELLOW METAL SHEATHING** are not beyond 250 cases, prices have remained unchanged.

MISCELLANEOUS GOODS.—The general situation of this market seems to be growing gloomier from month to month, for while metals, and other imports are improving in values all round, many goods enumerated under this heading continue decreasing in value, as for instance *Buttons*, *Umbrellas*, *Berlin Wool* and *Baking Tins*. Quotations for *Vienna Matches* are fairly maintained, and *Window Glass* is firm at quotations. A parcel of best *Gold-eyed*, *Eagle Chop*, were cleared at ₹97½, and *Drilled-eyed*, No. 1/5, have been sold at ₹63. Business in *Dyes and Colours* has been of a retail character and with the exception of a sale of 6 R *Scarlet* in 8 oz. tins "flying boys" Chop at 22½ nothing worth reporting has occurred. There are small sales of *Handkerchiefs* and *Towels* at auction and privately at previous rates. Nothing has been moving in *Llama Braid*.

Opium.—Closing quotations:—*Malwa* (new) ₹460/465, (old) ₹465/480; *Patna*, (new) ₹450; *Benares*, (new) ₹460.

EXPORTS.

Silk.—From Messrs. Cromie and Burkill's Circular of 21st December:—London advices to 19th quote *Gold Kilins* 9/0., and *Continental* messages advise quiet markets.

RAW SILK.—There has been apparent a distinctly better feeling during the week, and demand for certain classes of Silk has been keener than for some time past. The market closes firm, holders less inclined to sell at current prices.

TSATLEES.—About 700 bales have found buyers, mostly of the lower grades, prices for which have now an upward tendency.

TAYSAMS.—About 150 bales 9/19 Moss are going forward, some of which are for Asiatic markets.

YELLOW SILKS.—A fair business is doing and all classes are enquired for; stocks however are poorly assorted at the moment, especially in coarse kinds.

Arrivals, as per Customs Returns from 14th to 20th December, are 698 bales *White* and 48 bales *Yellow* and *Wild Silks*.

RE-REELS AND FILATURES.—The settlement of 100 bales of *Best Croisé* is reported for the New York market, and we believe the following prices to be near the mark, viz: ₹495 for *Ex*: No. 1; ₹485 for No. 1; and ₹475 for No. 2; and of a like quantity of *Filatures* ordinary reel, for the Continent, at ₹465 for No. 1; and ₹455 for No. 2.

WILD SILKS.—Small business only at quotations, holders weak.

WASTE SILKS.—No. 1 Curries have been settled at ₹69 a 72 according to quality, which is now very irregular. *Woosieh Pierced* *Cocorus* at ₹60, some considerable quantities of *boiled Waste* and *low Frisonnets* at various prices, and *Honan No. 2* at ₹22 unsorted. Settlements for the week—2,000 piculs.

Purchases include:—**TSATLEES.**—Beautiful *Woman 2* at ₹385, *Large Elephant 3* at ₹380, 4 at ₹347½, *Gold Elephant* at ₹380, *Gold Lion* at ₹350, *Mountain 4* at ₹32½, *Almond Flower Sutemay* at ₹347½, *Gold Kijing* at ₹337½, *Yaconlays Seeling* at ₹337½, *Double Silver Elephant* at ₹337½, *Blue Phoenix* at ₹320, *Dollar S.S.S.S.S.* at ₹300. **HANGCHOW TSATLEES.**—*Lanhook* at ₹307½. **TAYSAMS.**—9/12 Moss *Green Stork 3* at ₹272½, 4 at ₹225, *Double Butterfly 2* at ₹272½, *Gold Bear Extra 1* at ₹227½. **SKINS.**—*Chingyung Market Chop* at ₹215. **YELLOW SILK.**—*Mienchew* at ₹245 a 247½, *Kopun* at ₹225 a 227½, *Mecyang* at ₹217½, *Fooyung* at ₹195, *Wongchow* at ₹176½ a 177½, *Szechong* at ₹170 a 172½. **WILD SILK.**—*Tussah Raw* at ₹142½ a 150. **FILATURES.**—*May-an-yeh Croisé Best 1* at ₹495, *Black Horse Ordinary Reel No. 1* at ₹465.

	1893-94.	1892-93.	1891-92.	1890-91.	1889-90.	1888-89.
Settlements for this mail	about 2,000	2,000	1,400	500	2,000	3,000 bales.
" " season inclu- ding forward contracts	45,500	54,000	47,500	35,600	51,300	44,000 "
Stocks	14,500	11,000	13,500	15,600	12,500	2,200 "
Total Arrivals	60,000	65,000	61,000	51,200	63,500	46,200 "
		Including old Silk.				

Memo: *White Silk* to Europe averages P. 0.80 per bale.

" " " *America* " 1.00 "

" " " *Europe* " 1.00 "

Memo: *Yellow Silk* to Asia averages P. 1.25 per bale.

Wild " averages 1.00 "

	* England.	* France, &c.	Total Europe.	America.	India & Egypt.	Coast & Straits.	Grand Total.
Export White Silk	4,045	25,566	29,611	1,057	2,465	918	34,051 bales.
" Yellow "	10	3,169	3,179	1	4,051	681	7,912 "
" Wild "	47	1,789	1,836	87	7	27	1,957 "
	4,102	30,524	34,626	1,145	6,523	1,626	43,920 "
Against in 1892-93.....	2,287	40,898	43,185	3,464	3,802	1,348	51,799 "
" 1891-92.....	5,513	30,633	36,146	3,737	4,211	1,110	45,204 "
Export Waste Silk	8,045	21,681	29,726	...	50	115	29,891 piculs
" Cocoons	815	4,268	5,083	475	1	539	6,098 "

* Many shipments are now sent optional, Marseilles or London.

Also 236 piculs Old Silk Wadding to London.

Freight.—From Messrs. Wheelock & Co.'s Report of 22nd December:—Now that the Northern ports have closed, we must look forward to a more or less dull season for the next three months; no doubt owners of homeward steamers also anticipate this, as rates for London and Northern Continental ports have been greatly reduced, the only cargo procurable being braid and muck and truck, which can hardly bear the high rates which have been ruling. Tea exports, we might say, are finished. Coastwise.—Though in our last we mentioned that abundant tonnage would be available, nearly all has been taken up for cotton, etc., for Japan, for which very remunerative rates have been obtained, several of our local liners having chartered in this direction; splendid rates are also being paid for large carriers from Japan to Hongkong and Singapore, and a great number have taken the advantage. On this account, not so much has been done from Wuhu to Canton as might have been.

It has to be noted that owing to the sale of the s.s. *Oopack* she has been withdrawn from the London berth, with the result that we shall have no steamers to take her place, except the mails, until the end of the month; dates of arrivals we give immediately below.

For London *via* Suez.—Rates in this direction have declined all round, as will be seen from our quotations below. There is nothing on the berth except the mails, and not until the *Malacca* and *Telemachus* arrive, which will be about the end of the month, will there be an opportunity for shippers; the latter vessel will probably be despatched on or about the 7th proximo. The *Pingsuey* and *Glenogle* are also to load and will arrive about the beginning of the year. The *Palamed* left here on 17th instant with an exceedingly good cargo for this time of the year.

The Shell line *Bullmouth* will call here about the 15th proximo to load, taking cargo also for Hamburg, etc., at 30s. per ton.

For New York *via* the Canal.—The departure of the s.s. *Ocampo* on the 17th with her allotted space filled has left us nothing on the berth, but her place will be taken by the s.s. *Lennox* arriving to-day; there being very little cargo to go forward she will no doubt be despatched for the Southern ports quickly. The sailing vessel *Kenilworth* is now loading at 22/6, but she will suffer from a dearth of cargo and be sent at once to Hongkong.

Departures for London.—s.s. *Palamed*, Dec. 17th. For New York.—s.s. *Ocampo* Dec. 17th.

Shanghai to London. P. & O. S. N. Co., O. S. S. Co., Ben Line, C. M. S. N. Co., Glen Line 35s. per ton for general cargo, 45s. tea.

The above rates are also for Northern Continental Ports.

Shanghai to New York 40/0, tea and general cargo. Shanghai to New York 22/6, tea and general cargo (sailer).

Quotations are:—Newchwang to Swatow, Amoy and Canton season closed. Chefoo to Swatow 11 cand. per picul. Wuhu to Canton 13 cand. per picul. Nagasaki to Shanghai \$1.40 per ton.

Settlements during the fortnight:—*Hideyoshi Maru*, Jap. str. 765 tons, Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.50 per ton Coal; *Else*, Ger. str. 747 tons Register, same voyage, \$1.30 per ton; *Nanamo*, Br. bq. 397 tons Register, Kuchinotzu to Shanghai, \$1.30 per ton; *Presto*, Ger. str. 655 tons Register, Nagasaki to Shanghai, \$1.35 per ton; *Alwine Seyd*, Ger. str. 507 tons Register, Kuchinotzu to Shanghai, \$1.30 per ton. *Aida*, Am. sch. 507 tons Register, Kuchinotzu to San Francisco, \$2.75 gold, per ton.

Disengaged vessel in port.—Nil.

Coal.—From Messrs. Wheelock and Co.'s Report of 22nd December:—JAPAN.—From our last advices from Japan we have to report a considerable advance on prices of Coal, an advance of nearly 20% all round, and, as freights still keep up we cannot expect much business in the article for some time; enormous quantities, though are being sent South, and as steamers command high rates still, it is wonderful that such large transactions have occurred. Natives here are still holding aloof, and little or nothing has been done, arrivals being mostly to consumers, and the only sale we have to report is a few hundred tons of Miiké dust at \$3.00 per ton. CARDIFF.—Although there has been a good demand, it is peculiar that no business has resulted. AUSTRALIAN.—Wollongong:—The price of this has decidedly hardened and a sale has to be reported at \$7.50, which, we believe, we quoted in our last issue; since then we may say that holders will not do anything less than \$7.75, they certainly intend keeping the market firm, their apparent intention being to attain \$8.00 per ton, and perhaps they will succeed. The s.s. *Taiwan* arrived on the 11th inst. bringing 1,672 tons, which is still unsold. AMERICAN ANTHRACITE.—Nothing but the continuation of a peddling business to report.

Cardiff, ex godown	Tls. 9.25 per ton.	Japan, Imabuko, ex godown.....	Tls. 2.75 per ton.
American Anthracite, ex godown.....	11.50 "	Keelung Lump, ex godown	3.50 "
Sydney, Wollongong, steamer cargo	7.75 "	Hayama, ex godown	3.75 "
Newcastle, N.S.W., ex godown.....	7.00 "	Chikuzen, ex godown.....	3.25 "
Japan, Takasima Lump, ex godown	6.00 "	Meniji, ex godown	3.50 "
" Small	3.25 "	Ohnoura	3.75 "
" Miiké Lump	5.00 "	Namazuta Lump, ex godown	4.25 "
" Small	3.50 "	" Dust	3.00 "

Arrivals during the fortnight have been:—*Namazuta* lump, 310 tons; *Namazuta* small, 1,530 tons; Mixed Japan, 7,458 tons; *Takasima* small, 2,321 tons; *Miiké* large, 2,331 tons; *Miiké* small, 400 tons; *Miiké* dust, 1,104 tons; *Ohnoura*, 728 tons; *Wollongong*, 1,672 tons; *Takasima* lump, 567 tons; No. 5 Kaiping dust, 500 tons; *Moji*, 2,750 tons; total, 22,761 tons.

Kerosene Oil.—Since last writing, our market has suffered a further decline, which, though it is but slight, restricts business to a certain extent, especially for cargo "to arrive." Sales of hard cargo Devoes have been made to the extent of about a couple of thousand cases daily; damages *ex Wildwood* and *Asia* passed hands at \$1.33 and \$1.30 respectively. In Russian, we have not heard of any transactions and our stock has entirely disappeared. In our last we reported the arrival of the *Laudskrona*, which, however, turned out to be an error, in her place we now report the arrival of the *Howard D. Troop* on the 13th inst. with 92,000 cases Devoes, and as the *Gulf of Genoa* is due at Woosung this morning we also take her out of our list of cargoes afloat, but do not include her in our stock, which is now represented by 220,100 cases American.

Devoe's	\$1.29 a 1.30 per case, one month's prompt, firm.
Chester	\$1.29 a 1.30 " " nominal.
Russian	\$1.25 " " "

Exchange.—On London.—Telegraphic Transfers, 3s. 2½d. a 3s. 2½d. Banks Bills, demand, 3s. 2½d. a 3s. 2½d. Bank Bills, 4 months' sight, 3s. 2½d. First-Class Credits to Banks, 4 months' sight, 3s. 3½d.; 6 months' sight, 3s. 3½d. Private and Documentary, 4 months' sight, 3s. 3½d.; 6 months' sight, 3s. 3½d. On France.—Bank Bills, demand, Fcs. 4.02; Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 4.12, 6 months' sight, 4.15. On Germany.—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, Marks 3.33. On New York.—Credits and Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight, 123½. On Hongkong.—Telegraphic Transfers, 72½ per cent. discount; Private Bills, 3 days' sight, 72½. On Yokohama.—Telegraphic Transfers 72½. Private Bills, 15 days' sight, 71½. On Bombay and Calcutta.—Telegraphic Transfers, Rs. 233. Bank Bills, demand, Rs. 253½. Bullion—Gold Bars, Peking, 98 touch, \$302.00. Silver Bars, \$111. Mexican dollars, \$73.735. Carolus dollars, \$88.00. Copper Cash, 1,390 Chinese Interest, cand. 7. Bar Silver in London, per oz. 32½.

DAILY QUOTATIONS.

(From Messrs. Morris & Fergusson's Circular.)

Dec.	Bar Silver # oz in L'don.	ON LONDON.								FRANCE.		GER-	N.Y.K.	HONG-	YOKO-	INDIA.
		T/Transfers.		Bank 4 m/s.		Credits 4 m/s.		Docty. 4 m/s.		Francs 4 m/s. and 6 do.		MAN- Y.	Docty 4 m/s.	KONG.	T/T	T/T Rupees.
		Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	Lowest.	Highest.	4 m/s. Priv.				
16th.....	32	3.2½	3.2½	3.2½	3.2½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	4.11/4.14	4.12/4.15	3.33	123½	72½	72½	254
18th.....	32	3.2½	3.2½	3.2½	3.2½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	4.11/4.14	4.12/4.15	3.33	123½	72½	72½	254
19th.....	32½	3.2½	3.2½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	4.13/4.16	4.14/4.17	3.35	123½	72½	72½	255
20th.....	32½	3.2½	3.2½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	4.13/4.16	4.14/4.17	3.35	123½	72½	72½	255 nom.
21st.....	32½	3.2½	3.2½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	4.14/4.17	4.14/4.17	3.35	123½	72½	72½	254
22nd.....	32½	3.2½	3.2½	3.2½	3.2½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	3.3½	4.12/4.15	4.12/4.15	3.33	123½	72½	72½	253

AUCTION SALES.

Auctions for the week ending 21st December, 1893, comprised the following Goods:—

For the week.	Previous week.	Corresponding week last year.	For the week.	Previous week.	Corresponding week last year.
Grey Shirtings.....10,770 pcs. against 10,060 pcs. and 9,550 pcs.			Velvets	pcs. against	pcs.
White Shirtings ... 4,620 " " 4,540 " " 3,460 "			Velveteens	" " " " "	" "
T-Cloths	1,790 " " 1,730 " " 2,365 "		Cotton Yarn.....	bales " " " " "	bls.
Drills, English.....	" " " " "		Camlets	400 pcs. " " " " "	1,160 pcs.
Jeans, "	90 " " 60 " " " "		Long Ells	100 " " 160 " " 480 "	" "
Sheetings, English. 480 " " 500 " " 240 "			Lastings.....	300 " " 300 " " 700 "	" "
Turkey Reds	" " 81 " " " "		Spanish Stripes ..	354 " " 444 " " 1,056 "	" "

PIECE GOODS.

At E-wo, 20th inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—8.4-lbs.—2,400 pieces: *Black Tea Caddy XX* £1.96, *Blue Crab* £2.00½, *Green 2 Tea Caddy* £2.08½/08½, *Blue Bell XX* £2.09/09½, *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* £2.11½/11½, *Blue 2 do.* £2.25½.

10-lbs.—250 pieces; *Blue Tea Caddy DDD* £2.44½/45.11-lbs.—150 pieces; *Blue Bell* £2.47½.**T-Cloths.**—7-lbs.—350 pieces; *Red Tea Caddy* £1.33.8-lbs.—300 pieces; *Red Tea Caddy* £1.61½.

At Yuen-fong, 21st inst.—

Grey Shirtings.—6-lbs.—300 pieces; *Lotus* £1.15.7-lbs.—375 pieces; *Blue 4 Sister* £1.83½.

8.4-lbs.—4,325 pieces: *Double Man* £1.82/53½, *House* £1.85½, *Blue Britannia* £1.92, *Blue 4 Sisters* £1.95½, *Blue 3 Students* £1.97½, *Blue Double Shield* £1.99½/99½, *Red 3 Students* £2.02½, *5 Brothers* £2.10/10½.

10-lbs.—1,650 pieces; *Red Britannia* £2.36½, *Red 3 Students* £2.36, *Red Emperor's Birthday* £2.38, *Red 4 Sister* £2.40.10.12-lbs.—400 pieces; *Gold Britannia* £2.45½/45½.11-lbs.—500 pieces; *Painted 3 Students* £2.48½/49½.12-lbs.—420 pieces; *Nine Lion* £2.56/56½, *Soldier* £2.60/61½.

White Shirtings.—6.4-reed.—1,950 pieces; *House, Bright* £2.10, *do. Star* £2.08, *do. Dull* £2.10, *do. 3 Star* £2.02½, *Blue 2 Lighthouse, Bright* £2.10½, *do. Dull* £2.10/10½, *Black Gold 3 Students* £2.34½.

7.2-reed.—2,670 pieces: *White Gold 3 Student* £2.59½/59½, *Red 2 Sister* £2.60/60½, *Red 2 Light House, Bright* £2.62½, *do. Dull* £2.61½/61½, *do. 3 Star* £2.60, *Red Gold Star, Dull* £2.63, *Red 5 Star Bright* £2.71½, *do. Dull* £2.67½, *Painted Emperors Birthday* £2.63½/64, *Black Flag Chief* £2.72/72½.

T-Cloths.—7-lbs.—690 pieces; *Blue 3 Students* £1.28, *Blue Lion* £1.33½, *Red Double Shield* £1.34, *Red 3 Students* £1.43½.8-lbs.—450 pieces; *Blue Lion* £1.63/63½, *Painted 3 Students* £1.94½.**Jeans.**—8-lbs.—90 pieces; *Squirrel* £2.43½.**Sheetings.**—14-lbs.—480 pieces; *Lion on Cloud* £2.70½, *Nine Lion* £2.74½, *Old Man Head B* £2.70½, *do. A* £2.80½/80½.

AUCTION SALES OF WOOLLENS DURING THE WEEK.

Chops	Scarlet.	dk. Blue.	dk. Gentian.	Green, and N. Green.	Orange and Yellow.	Ash & Lav.	Ambr.	Purple.	Brown & Mag.	Mauve.	Lt. Bl. & Mid. "	a. Pos.
Camlets.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	Tls.	
Lighthouse, S.S.G., p.p.	12.72½	12.00	12.20	12.47½	11.97½	...	...	...	...	11.27½	11.65	
Sales, pos. ...	20	20	10*	10	...	...	...	...	...	10*	10*	100
9 Old Man, S.S.H., p.p.	11.97½	11.37½/40	12.02½/05	...	11.47½/52½	...	...	...	10.90	10.87½	11.37½	
Sales, pos. ...	60	50	40	20	...	...	...	...	10	10	10*	200
Fish P.P.P., p. pos. ...	11.95	11.13	12.07	12.21	11.90	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos. ...	30	20	30	10*	10	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Long Ells.												
Lighthouse, G.G.L., p.p.	6.00/10	...	...	6.17	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos. ...	80	...	...	20*	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100
Lastings.												
Ship, G.G.R., p. pos. ...	...	...	8.80	...	...	...	...	...	9.07½/10.06	...	...	
Sales, pos. ...	...	...	20	...	...	...	...	...	180	...	...	200
9 Old Man, F.F.R., p.p.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	9.07½/12½	...	...	
Sales, pos. ...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...	...	100
Spanish Stripes.												
Britannia, F.T.B., p.y.	0.53	0.45½	0.47	...	...	...	...	0.42½	0.40½	...	0.52½	
Sales, pos. ...	24	6	6	...	...	...	...	6	6	...	12	60
9 Old Man A.A.B. p.yd.	0.45½	0.43	0.44½	0.52½	...	...	...	...	0.37½	...	0.42	
Sales, pos. ...	24	6	12	6*	...	...	...	...	6	...	6	60
H. H., p. yd.	0.52½/52½	...	0.56½/56½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos. ...	48	...	24	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	72
Sea Horse, B.T.I., p.yd.	0.45.9/45.95	...	0.45½	...	...	0.47.05	0.47	...	0.39	0.48.1	0.43.4	
Sales, pos. ...	48	...	12	...	...	6*	6	...	6	12	6	102
Buffalo, p. yd.	0.42.7/43	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.40½	
Sales, pos. ...	18	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6*	24
Pig Head, p. yd.	0.40.45	...	0.41.15	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	0.39.2	
Sales, pos. ...	12	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	12*	30
Sheep Head, p. yd.	...	...	0.36½	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	
Sales, pos. ...	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6

Statement of Imports and Deliveries of Cotton and Woollen Piece Goods for the week ending 19th December, 1893, compiled from the "Customs Daily Returns," Nos. 291 to 295, both numbers inclusive.

RE-EXPORTS AND THEIR DESTINATIONS.

GOODS.	Ningpo.	Wenchow.	Chinkiang.	Wuhu.	Kiukiang.	Hankow.	Ichang & Chungking.	Chefoo.	Tientsin.	Newchwang.	Foochow.	Hongkong.	Japan.	Corea.	Vladivostok.	Local.	Sundries.
Grey Shirtings + ...Pcs.	2,975	...	2,580	110	170	3,550	...	2,275	23,260	...	850	...	...	...	...	6,500	50
T-Cloths, 32-in.	770	...	450	...	...	700	...	2,375	610	...	2,631	...	...	...	...	2,000	300
" Indian, 32 & 36-in.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,800	3,900	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
" 36-in.	800	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	390	...	...	...	...	...	...	2,000	...
White Shirtings.....	1,000	...	550	...	200	750	...	250	17,226	...	110	...	...	...	...	1,500	750
Drills, English & Dutch..	300	...	210	15	15	945	...	375	8,475	...	60	...	...	...	...	150	...
" American	120	...	120	15	...	1,020	...	300	6,840	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	...
Jeans, English & Dutch..	60	...	...	...	...	100	...	240	2,870	...	...	...	...	...	...	150	...
" American	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Sheetings, English.....	60	...	700	...	...	400	...	900	3,060	...	...	...	...	...	...	300	...
" Indian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	6,320	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
" American.....	120	...	...	...	...	...	...	930	7,550	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Dyed Shirtings.....	...	...	325	...	...	...	...	283	1,150	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Bro. & Sp. S'tings, D. & W.	180	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Chintzes	...	...	...	...	59	50	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	100	...
Printed T-Cloths	80	...	230	...	...	544	...	546	1,778	...	878	...	...	...	...	300	...
Printed Twills	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	710	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Turkey Red Shirtings ..	100	...	285	...	230	300	...	946	940	...	180	...	...	...	...	200	50
Velvets	24	...	...	...	24	60	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	90	...
Velveteens	...	...	...	...	...	30	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	30	...
Handkerchiefs Doz.	...	...	400	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3,500	...
Muslins.....Pcs.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...	...	...	...	...	...	200	...
Lenos & Balzarines	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Yarn, Indian.....Pcls.	96	...	222	3	339	3,039	...	984	5,787	...	21	...	...	...	...	120	...
" English	...	...	15	...	...	645	...	9	213	...	...	...	...	...	...	15	...
Spanish Stripes, Woollen.Pcs.	48	...	...	...	72	174	...	6	204	...	36	...	...	...	...	120	...
" Cotton	...	...	6	...	...	...	...	216	144	...	...	...	...	...	...	50	...
Medium & Broad Cloths ..	6	...	...	...	...	26	...	10	...	...	54	...	...	...	...	40	...
Camlets	20	...	20	...	60	120	...	...	...	...	60	...	...	...	...	110	...
Long Ells	20	...	...	...	60	285	...	...	160	...	...	...	...	...	...	120	...
Lastings	20	...	30	...	20	220	...	20	740	...	80	...	...	...	...	140	...
Italian Cloth	...	...	90	...	...	89	...	120	210	...	30	...	...	...	...	150	...
Cotton Lastings & Italians	330	...	759	...	60	1,090	...	620	1,857	...	60	...	...	...	...	350	...
Plain & Figured Orleans ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cotton Flannels	490	...	280	100	...	141	...	60	840	...	170	...	...	...	...	350	10
Lead in Pigs.....Pcls.	63	...	216	39	54	379	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iron—Nail Rod	554	...	...	35	92	462	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kerosine Oil, American..Cas.	3,400	...	...	1,000	770	5,250	...	...	1,000	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
" Russian	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, ON 31ST DEC., 1892.

GOODS.	TOTAL DELIVERIES.			TOTAL IMPORTS.			STOCKS AT DATE ARE BASED ON THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE RETURNS, ON 31ST DEC., 1892.	
	As above.	For the Year from 1st Jan., 1893.	Against last year to same term.	For the week.	For the year from 1st Jan. 1893.	Against last year to same term.	* At date Estimated.	Against 21st December, 1892.
Grey Shirtings + ...Pcs.	42,320	4,553,395	6,032,989	12,276	3,887,171	5,910,125	694,761	1,217,622
T-Cloths, 32-in.	9,836	801,625	1,309,818	...	779,091	...	177,911	...
" Indian, 32 & 36-in.	6,850	232,646	...	3,400	144,140	1,348,747	13,054	276,202
" 36-in.	3,190	176,833	281,438	...	182,324	311,824	59,377	87,288
White Shirtings	22,336	1,345,760	1,870,901	450	1,237,322	1,587,074	254,197	354,372
Drills, English & Dutch..	10,545	426,957	267,315	2,280	428,250	185,730	20,958	8,416
" American	8,505	400,630	637,342	...	399,275	572,762	13,720	4,949
Jeans, English & Dutch..	3,420	134,669	163,215	1,930	99,038	136,636	?	36,424
" American	...	23,890	18,370	...	18,000	18,000	110	1,470
Sheetings, English.....	5,420	687,964	738,149	1,400	668,915	...	66,524	...
" Indian	6,420	31,079	...	2,130	71,500	691,088	7,960	141,298
" American.....	8,800	848,030	1,518,324	...	834,450	1,385,730	152,785	202,180
Dyed Shirtings.....	1,808	209,049	252,490	2,162	141,343	228,116	?	27,850
Bro. & Sp. S'tings, D. & W.	230	52,718	39,340	...	54,580	26,320	12,419	562
Chintzes	209	44,639	56,834	...	52,898	71,550	27,143	27,299
Printed T-Cloths	4,356	453,755	476,730	...	461,501	530,203	219,446	251,737
Printed Twills	960	95,476	134,105	...	99,107	177,337	80,299	49,691
Turkey Red Shirtings.....	3,231	318,184	441,957	...	138,821	337,525	77,595	279,862
Velvets	198	28,629	39,267	...	38,059	41,939	17,090	8,399
Velveteens	60	8,593	12,952	...	9,325	10,349	2,606	1,121
Handkerchiefs Doz.	4,100	349,346	415,774	...	429,320	540,797	249,103	195,531
Muslins.....Pcs.	400	187,612	186,587	...	250,339	225,731	128,836	66,053
Lenos & Balzarines	...	78,638	96,315	...	72,687	81,670	17,651	14,908
Cotton Yarn, Indian.....Pcls.	10,611	489,113	732,704	8,490	447,001	672,196	14,216	40,818
" English	897	20,703	34,402	...	16,726	15,947	65	4,324
Spanish Stripes, Woollen..	660	34,551	38,257	420	41,232	47,214	11,841	6,530
" Cotton	416	19,136	27,849	...	24,589	23,908	8,100	?
Medium and Broad Cloths ..	136	20,044	25,571	...	16,065	37,011	13,151	15,966
Camlets	390	60,689	72,178	991	58,355	62,399	4,736	7,008
Long Ells	705	71,581	76,819	300	73,980	72,780	11,362	6,220
Lastings	1,270	108,079	123,810	1,320	136,212	115,902	42,518	9,168
Italian Cloth	689	71,579	83,581	1,740	101,967	71,246	38,952	6,737
Cotton Lastings & Italians	5,126	521,234	581,182	490	671,454	670,717	341,432	226,474
Plain & Figured Orleans ..	...	7,305	25,901	...	5,319	11,467	2,691	1,500
Cotton Flannels	2,531	95,921	78,670	111	132,838	101,641	58,967	74,565
Lead in Pigs.....Pcls.	751	97,313	87,989	...	85,843	104,378	9,072	26,365
Iron—Nail Rod	1,143	164,143	197,881	...	211,001	187,755	119,467	96,790
Kerosine Oil, American ..Cas.	11,420	1,995,352	1,222,353	58,415	2,096,163	1,666,875	213,104	680,448
" Russian	...	398,530	384,500	...	513,202	309,515	?	1,504

† Including English and Dutch 12-lbs.

* Exclusive of undeclared Import Cargoes per Dardanus, Oldenburg, Empress of Japan, Yarra, Glenogle, Afghan, Rohilla, Malacca, Telemachus, Kintuck, Manila, Natal, Palinurus and Pinguet.

Import Cargoes declared during interval: Salazie, Rosetta, additional ex Ulysses, Oolong, Ozus and Saghalien in Bond ex Malacca.

‡ From the daily returns from the Wharves.

SHARES.

SHANGHAI, 22nd December, 1893.

BANKS.—Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation.—One or two small lots were placed at 96 per cent. premium, and a few more are wanted.

SHIPPING.—Shanghai Tug Boat Co.—An interim dividend of 3 per cent. was paid on the 20th inst. Indo-China S. N. shares have been in demand, sales being made at £18, £20 and £21. Hongkong, Canton and Macao Steamboat Co.—Shares were sold to Hongkong at \$29. Holders now ask \$29½. Taku Tug and Lighter shares were placed at T. £54 and 55.

MARINE INSURANCE.—Unions were sold at \$89, and Cantons were placed, from Hongkong, at \$141 and \$140.

FIRE INSURANCE.—Chinas have been placed at \$81½.

MINING.—A number of Sheridan shares have changed hands at 12.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Waterworks shares were sold at £157½, £158 and £158½, Shanghai Land Investment shares at £29, and Hall & Holtz shares, \$20 paid up, at \$15. China Sugar Refining shares were placed to Hongkong at \$175.

LOANS.—Chinese Imperial Loan Bonds were sold at £277½, plus the accrued interest, and Perak Sugar Cultivation Company's 10 per cent. Debentures at £101.

SHARES.	No.	Value.	Paid up.	POSITION PER LAST REPORT.			LAST DIVIDEND, &c.		CASH QUOTATION	
				Reserve.	At Working Account.	Date.	To Shareholders.	When paid or due.	Closing.	Tails.
<i>Banks.</i>										
Hongkong & Shanghai Bank Co.	80,000	\$125	\$125	\$3,900,000.00	\$119,280.16	30 June 93	*£1	21 Aug 93	96% pm.	178.85
Bank of China, Jap. & Straits, Ld.	199,875	£10	£11	.....	£2,002.13	10-31 Dec 92	+£0.49	4 Mar 92	.....	1.50 nom
Do. Founders'	1,250	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	+£35.23	14 Feb 91	£20.0.0	106.96
National Bank of China, Ld. A	19,970	£10	£8	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....
Do. B	29,955	£10	£8	.....	\$50,245.98	30 June 93	None.	.....	\$22.00	16.06
Do. Founders'	750	£1	£1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	\$130.00	94.90
<i>Shipping.</i>										
Shanghai Tug Boat Co., Ld.	1,000	£100	£100	£3,000	£171.12	31 Dec 92	£3	20 Dec. 93	.....	87.00
Indo-China Steam Nav. Co.	49,589	£10	£10	£35,000.00	£1,086.7.2	31 Dec 92	+£2½	7 July 92	.....	21.00
Shanghai Shipping Co.	150	£150	£150	£4,054.27	£376.05	30 June 93	£8%	8 Sept 93	.....	150.00
Ch. Mutual S.N. Co. pref. shares	20,000	£10	£10	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£6.10.0	33.91
Do. ord. do.	10,000	£10	£5	£114,000.00	£1,296.19	0.31 Dec 92	*3%	2 Oct 93	.....	5.26
Do. do. do.	10,000	£10	£3½	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£0.10.0	2.61
Taku Tug and Lighter Co., Ld.	8,600	T. 150	T. 150	£73,449.16	£5,182.45	31 Dec 92	*3%	31 July 93	T. 553.00	57.75
H'kong, C'nton & M'cao S.B. Co.	80,000	£20	£20	\$619,000.00	\$25,864.49	30 June 93	*6%	31 July 93	\$28.75	20.99
<i>Docks.</i>										
Shanghai Dock Co.	440	£500	£500	£18,667.07	£164.93	30 June 93	*£12	3 July 93	.....	420.00
Byrd & Co., Ld., Founders'	200	£100	£100	£81,000.00	£2,027.81	30 April 93	+£10	26 July 93	.....	300.60
Byrd & Co., Ld.	7,800	£100	£100	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	130.00
S. C. Farnham & Co., Ld.	7,500	£100	£100	£15,000.00	£2,793.13	30 June 93	+£19	8 Sept 93	.....	97.50
<i>Insurance (Marine.)</i>										
China Traders' Ins. Co., Ld.	24,000	\$83.33	\$25	\$750,000.00	\$207,615.28	30 April 93	+£4.50	16 Sept 93	\$55.00	40.15
North-China Ins. Co., Ld.	5,000	£200	£25	\$200,000.00	£159,969.32	31 Dec 92	+£26.67	22 April 92	.....	135.00
Union In. Society of Canton, Ld.	10,000	\$250	\$25	\$904,000.00	\$488,840.60	30 June 93	+£7	14 Oct 93	\$89.00	64.97
Yangtze Insurance Ass'n, Ld.	6,948	\$100	\$60	\$280,000.00	\$133,627.84	31 Dec 92	+£6%	27 April 93	\$62.50	45.63
Canton Insurance Office	10,000	\$250	\$50	\$850,000.00	\$52,863.15	31 Dec 92	£4	31 Oct 93	\$140.60	102.20
Straits Insurance Co., Ld.	30,000	\$190	\$20	\$64,017.87	\$9,487.16	.....	+£4	15 July 92	\$13.25	9.67
<i>Insurance (Fire.)</i>										
Hongkong Fire Ins. Co., Ld.	8,000	\$250	\$50	\$1,060,000	\$301,495.70	31 Dec 92	+£17.50	16 Mar 93	\$197.25	144.00
China Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$825,000.00	\$183,787.54	31 Dec 92	+£7	7 Mar 93	\$81.75	59.68
Straits Fire Insurance Co., Ld.	20,000	\$100	\$20	\$127,500.00	\$22,845.03	31 Dec 92	+5%	29 Mar 93	\$17.00	12.41
<i>Wharves.</i>										
Shanghai & H'kew Wharf Co.	2,867	£100	£100	£94,089.75	£4,302.19	31 Dec 92	*£6.00	10 Aug 93	.....	265.00
Birt's Wharf H. C. & W. C. Co.	2,100	£50	£50	£10,000.00	.....	31 Oct 92	*3½%	29 Nov. 93	.....	37.00
H'kong & K'loon Wh. & G. Co., Ld.	20,000	\$50	\$50	.....	\$14,409.37	31 Dec 92	*\$1.25	31 July 93	\$37.50	27.37
<i>Mining.</i>										
Sheridan Con. M. & M. Co., Ld.	20,000	£100	£100	.....	£47,714.08	31 Dec 92	None.	.....	.....	2.00
Smuggler Union Mining Co.	50,000	G. \$100	G. \$100	.....	\$48,965.72	1 April 93	.....	.....	.....	nominal.
Selama Tin Mining Co., Ld.	115,000	\$1	\$0.50	.....	.....	.....	None.	.....	.....	do.
Do. do.	25,000	\$1	\$1	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	do.
<i>Cargo Boats.</i>										
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£200	£200	£40,397.90	£2,643.16	31 Dec 92	*6%	1 Aug 93	.....	210.00
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.	1,000	£100	£100	£11,000.00	£1,930.32	31 Dec 92	*3%	1 Aug 93	.....	80.00
<i>Miscellaneous.</i>										
Shanghai Gas Co.	2,000	£100	£100	£100,000.00	£12,644.41	31 Dec 92	*6%	6 July 93	.....	197.50
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ld.	7,200	£20	£20	£25,723.08	£218.45	31 Dec 92	*3%	8 Aug 93	.....	158.50
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co. Ld.	5,000	£50	£50	.....	£201.08	30 June 93	2%	18 Oct 93	.....	29.00
Hall & Holtz, Ld.	6,000	\$20	\$20	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	\$15.00	10.95
Japan Brewery Co., Ld.	1,500	\$100	\$100	\$10,345.85	\$3,061.51	31 Dec 91	*\$5%	10 Mar 92	\$104.00	75.92
Sh. Land Investment Co., Ld.	20,000	£50	£30	£28,263.17	£301.51	31 Dec 92	*3%	24 July 93	.....	29.00
J. Llewellyn & Co., Ld.	1,200	\$100	\$100	.....	\$254.06	31 Dec 92	+7%	25 May 93	\$52.50	38.32
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ld.	1,800	£50	£50	£1,903.86	£1,855.54	31 Dec 92	*£1½	13 Nov 93	.....	38.50
Major Brothers, Ld.	6,000	£50	£50	.....	£623.53	14 Oct 92	*£1.50	9 Dec 92	.....	35.00
Y'hama Engin. & Iron Work, Ld.	1,300	\$100	\$100	\$10,225.99	.....	30 Nov 91	*3%	30 Nov 91	\$25.00	18.25
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.	1,290	\$100	\$100	\$7,311.93	.....	31 Dec 92	\$20.00	31 July 93	.....	130.00
Shanghai-Lankat Tob. Co., Ld.	1,590	£100	£80	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	50.00
Do. Founders'	10	£100	£70	.....	.....	.....	First year.	.....	.....	525.00
L'Hôtel des Colonies, Ld.	500	£50	£50	.....	.....	31 Dec 92	+7%	25 April 93	.....	13.50
Shanghai Ice Co.	360	£100	£100	£250.00	.....	31 Dec 92	+7%	25 April 93	.....	8.00
A. S. Watson & Co., Ld.	50,000	\$10	\$10	\$225,000.00	\$7,704.85	31 Dec 92	+9½%	10 Jan 93	.....	105.00
							*3%	23 May 93	\$10.00	7.30

LOANS.	Amount of Loan.	Outstanding.	Nominal Value.	Rate of Interest.	When Payable.	Closing.
Shanghai Mun. Debentures—Issue 1883	£45,000.00	£15,000.00	£100	7%	Dec. & June	nominal.
Do. 1884	£15,000.00	£15,000.00	£100	7%	Do.	.....
Do. 1885	£30,000.00	£30,000.00	£100	7%	Do.	.....
Do. 1888	£70,000.00	£70,000.00	£100	6%	Do.	.....
Do. 1890	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£100	6%	Do.	.....
Do. 1891	£20,000.00	£20,000.00	£100	5½%	Do.	 (a) £160.00
Do. 1892	£50,000.00	£50,000.00	£100	5%	Do.	 £100.00
China Merchants' S.N. Co. Debentures.	£300,000	£68,000	£100	7%	Quarterly	£100 (a) 55 6.27
Lycum Theatre Debentures	£17,000.00	£17,000.00	£25	*4%	2 Sept. '92	 £11.00
Chinese Imp. Government Loan 1886 E.	£767,200.00	£716,800.00	£250	7%	Mar. & Sept.	 (a) £277.50
Shanghai Land Invest. Co. Debentures.	£250,000.00	£250,000.00	£100	6%	May & Nov.	 (a) £100.00
Do. Do.	£105,200.00	£105,200.00	£100	5½%	June & Dec.	 £100.00

* For half year. † For quarter year. + For year. ‡ A deficit. § A dividend of 6% for the half year to 31st Dec., 1892, was paid on 12th Jan., 1893. (a) Exclusive of accrued interest.

J. P. BISSET & Co.